CREATED BY LEIJI MATSUMOTO
BASED ON THE OPERA CYCLE BY RICHARD WAGNER

Der Ring des Nibelungen

SIEGFRIED

6

Leiji MATSUMOTO
松本零士

A manga series originally
inspired by
Der Ring Des Nibelungen,
an opera in four parts
composed by Richard Wagner
(1813 – 1883)

Volumes 1 – 8
translated and adapted
by Richard E. Mandel
from the French language version
released by Kana Press

Volumes 9 – 10
re-edited and adapted
by Richard E. Mandel
from the original English release
on the old Shinchosa web site
(www.shinchosa.co.jp)

Introduction by Richard Mandel

To my knowledge, this is the first time that anyone has attempted to bring Leiji Matsumoto's *Harlock Saga* manga series to English speaking audiences. It is certainly the largest and longest manga translation project I have ever undertaken myself.

This is a first draft of my personal translation that I have used in my various Leijiverse researches. It is based on the French language version published by Kana Press in 2002. A "reverse translation," if you will. I translated it using *Power Translator* computer software, then rewrote all of the pidgin English that the computer spit back out into something an English-speaking person could actually read, understand, and enjoy. As such, it is more of an adaptation than a translation, and not very accurate in more places than most of us might care for -- but it gets the job done. I hope it suffices until someone who can speak and read the native Japanese comes along to do a more accurate rendition. Someone had to be first in doing this, and it may as well have been me.

I have taken the liberty of "streamlining" my English adaptation for the sake of those readers not familiar with the Leijiverse in general and the mythos behind this story. Whole chapters of dialogue have been rewritten as a result, and a dozen or so graphic panels which I believe are incorrect have been altered or replaced with alternate ones. Hopefully these editorial changes on my part will help clear up some of the confusion experienced by earlier readers of this work, who got to experience it in the original Japanese. I apologize in advance for any errors or mistakes I might have made during this process.

Siegfried

Ring 36 : The Black Hole

IT IS NOW GENERALLY ACCEPTED THAT TIME IS NOT A CONSTANT. IT AFFECTS OUR THREE DIMENSIONS BUT IS NOT ITSELF A PART OF IT. THEREFORE, UNBOUND BY OUR PHYSICAL LAWS, IT CAN SLOW OR SPEED UP DEPENDING ON THE LOCALE AND OTHER FORCES ....

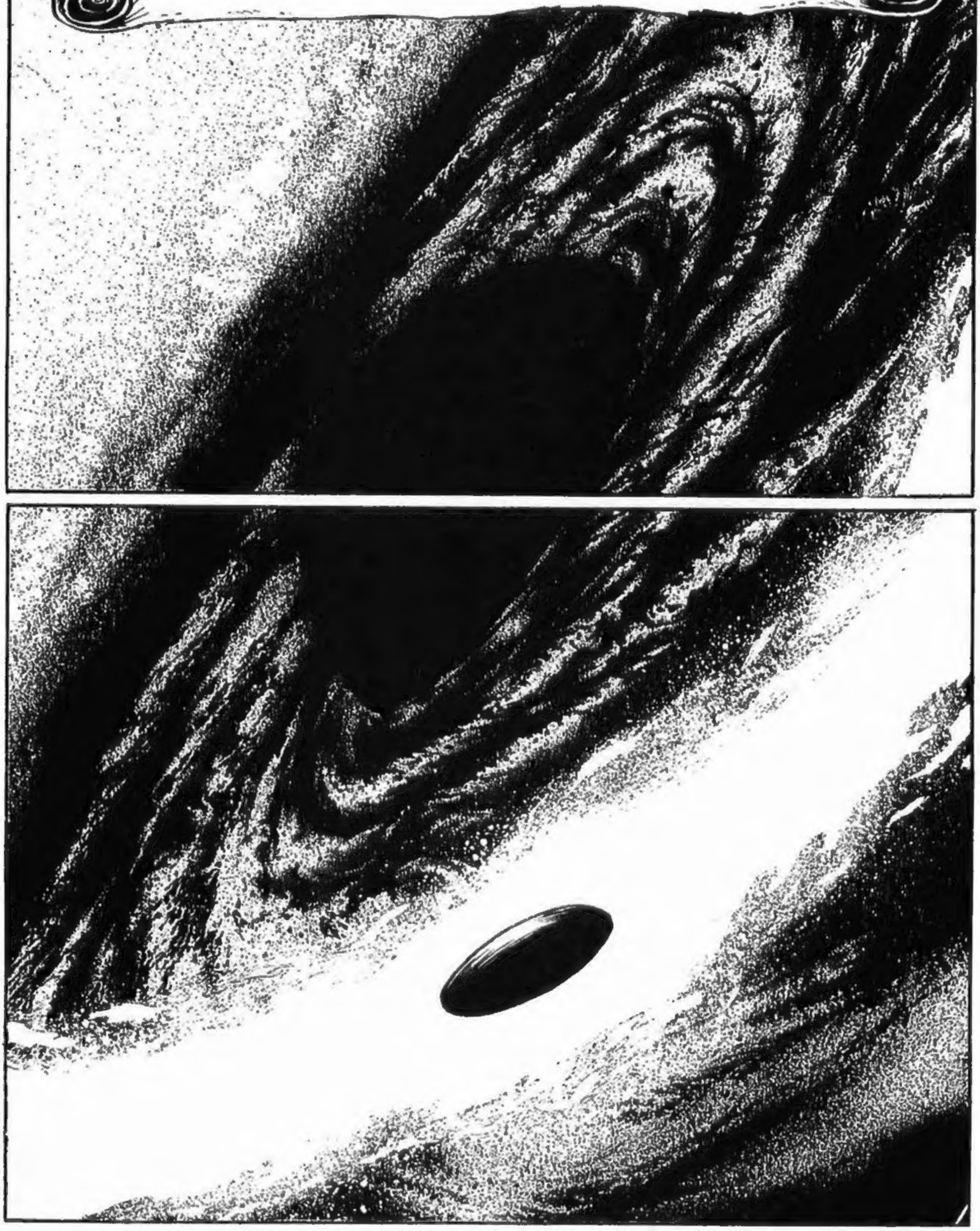
THE FIRST PROOF OF THESE VARIANCES IN TIME IN OUR UNIVERSE - "TIME WARPS," OR "TIME KNOTS," OR "TIME PORTALS," OR WHATEVER YOU WANT TO CALL THEM -- WAS IN THE 20TH CENTURY, WHEN THE EXISTENCE OF BLACK HOLES WAS DISCERNED. NOT EVEN LIGHT ITSELF CAN ESCAPE A BLACK HOLE. ONCE THOUGHT TO BE UNIVERSAL CONSTANTS, NOW BOTH TIME AND LIGHT ARE CONSIDERED VARIABLE ... AND MALLEABLE.

ONE SUCH BLACK HOLE EXISTS IN THE VOID BETWEEN DIMENSIONS ... WHERE SPACE AND TIME OBEY NO KNOWN LAWS ... WHERE THE LEGENDARY PLANET RHINE IS SAID TO BE LOST ... AND IT IS INTO THIS BLACK HOLE THAT WOTAN HAS HURLED THE CRYSTAL CASKET CONTAINING THE IMPRISONED AND SLEEPING VALKYRIES ... THERE TO REST FOR ALL ETERNITY ...

... OR SO HE BELIEVES.

THE EVENT HORIZON OF A BLACK HOLE.

IT IS A PLACE WHERE SPACE AND TIME ARE TWISTED BEYOND ANY REALITY THAT WE KNOW ... A TERRIBLE PLACE FRAUGHT WITH DANGER AND ALMOST CERTAIN DEATH FOR ANY WHO DARE TO TRESPASS UPON IT. INTO THIS RING OF UNREAL FLAME WOTAN HAS SENTENCED HIS DAUGHTERS -- THROWING A TEMPER TANTRUM OVER THEIR DECISION TO DO RIGHT, RATHER THAN TAKE UP HIS RESPONSIBILITY AS A GOD.



HANGING POISED ON THE EVENT HORIZON ...

... STUCK IN THAT FLEETING MOMENT OF ELONGATED TIME THAT DOMINATES THAT UNREAL PLACE ...

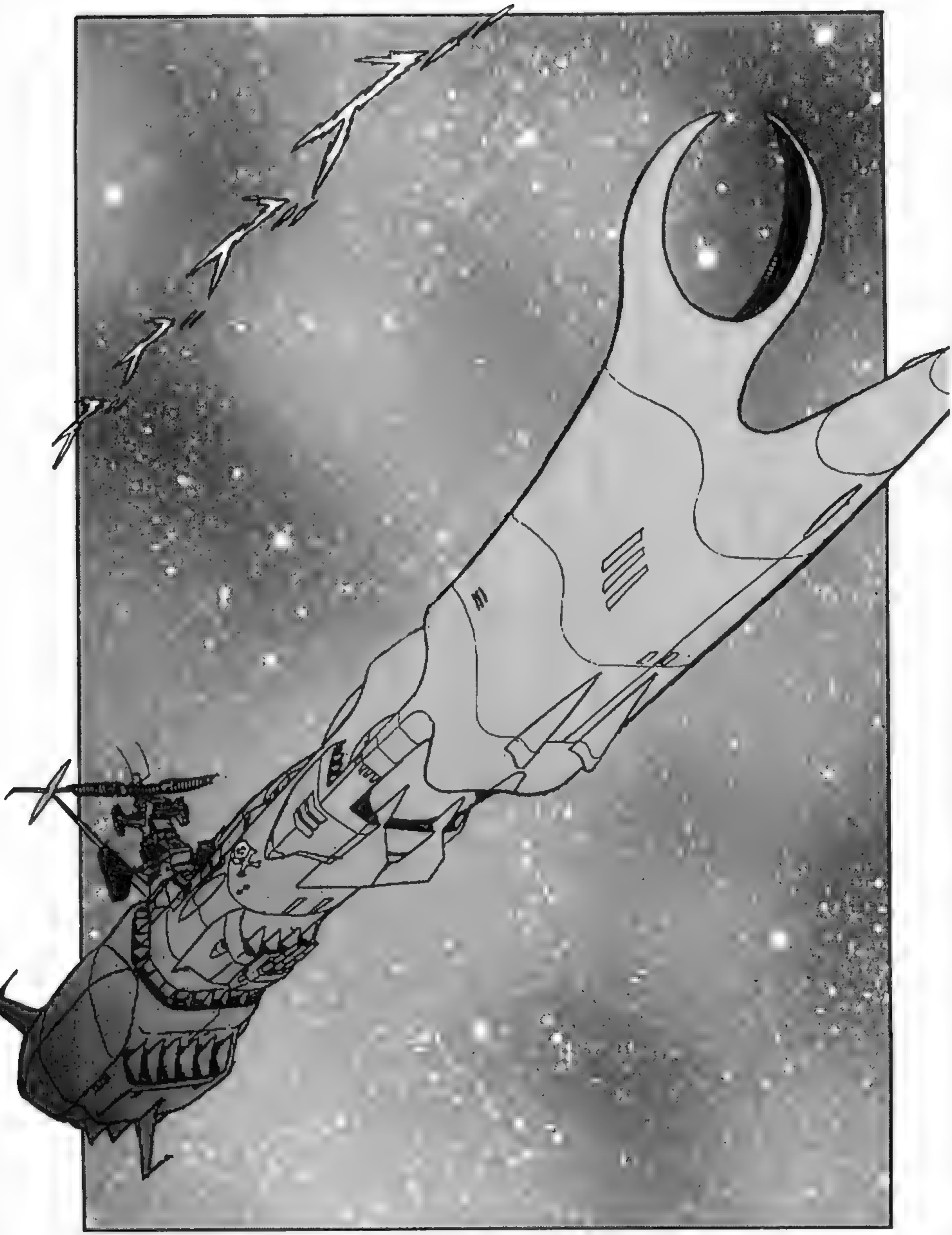
... SLEEPS BRUNHILDE AND HER SISTERS, SURROUNDED BY THE ALMOST INCOMPREHENSIBLE FLAMES OF AN UNREAL HELL.

THERE IT IS.

YEAH ... THAT'S GOING TO BE A PROBLEM.

THE QUESTION IS, HOW DO WE GET IT?

THANKS TO FREYA, AND THOSE UNUSUAL STELLAR MAPS THAT GRANDPA AND AKIRA GAVE US, WE'RE HERE IN THE VOID BETWEEN REALITIES ... AND THERE'S OUR PRIZE ....



IT DOESN'T MATTER. WE GOT IN, WE'LL GET BACK OUT AGAIN.

THE MAIN PROBLEM IS GOING TO BE FISHING THEM OUT OF THAT EVENT HORIZON.

... WE'RE REDUCED TO BRUTE FORCE AND BRAINPOWER. WE CAN'T EVEN TRUST THE PASSAGE OF TIME ...

WITH NONE OF OUR READOUTS MAKING SENSE AND THE SENSORS SPEWING FORTH GIBBERISH ...

IT'S TIME DIALATION CAUSED BY THE BLACK HOLE!

HAVE YOU NOTICED? NONE OF CHRONOMETERS OR WATCHES ARE RUNNING AT THE SAME SPEED.

... IT MAKES ME DIZZY! NOTHING SEEMS RIGHT! TOCHIRO?

THIS "PLACE BETWEEN THE UNIVERSES," AS YOU CALL IT, MIIME ...

AH! PLANCK TIME! WHEN EVERYTHING WAS NOTHING BUT CHAOS! THEN THE RINGS, THEN THE GALAXIES INSIDE EACH RING, AND SO ON!

ALL OF CREATION WAS LIKE THIS ONCE ... BEFORE THE RINGS OF TIME CAME INTO BEING.

"FIRST LIGHT?" DOES THAT HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE LORD OF DARKNESS YOU TALKED ABOUT BEFORE?

SOMETHING LIKE THAT. WHEN THE FIRST LIGHT SHONE FORTH INTO CREATION, IT DROVE AWAY THE DARKNESS INSIDE THE RINGS.

YES. THERE IS SOMETHING THAT HAS STIRRED THE ANCIENT DARKNESS ...

... AND THE SERVANTS OF OLD OF THE LORD OF DARKNESS ...

... THE MAZONE, THE ANCESTORS OF THE METANOIDS, AND MANY OTHERS, THEY CAN ALL FEEL ITS CALL, AND MOVE TO DO ITS DARK AND TERRIBLE BIDDING.

IT'S SHEER SIZE, FOR ONE.

WHY IS THIS BLACK HOLE ANY DIFFERENT FROM ONE IN OUR OWN SPACE AND TIME?

LET'S SEE ... THE SENSOR COMP BETTER NOT FREAK OUT ON ME AGAIN ... THERE!

CAN YOU IMAGINE THE FORCES INVOLVED AT ITS EVENT HORIZON?

YES ... BUT DANCING A STARSHIP AROUND A BLACK HOLE'S EVENT HORIZON IS A PROVEN TECHNIQUE WHERE WE COME FROM -- TAKES A HELLUVA PILOT, BUT IT'S DOABLE.

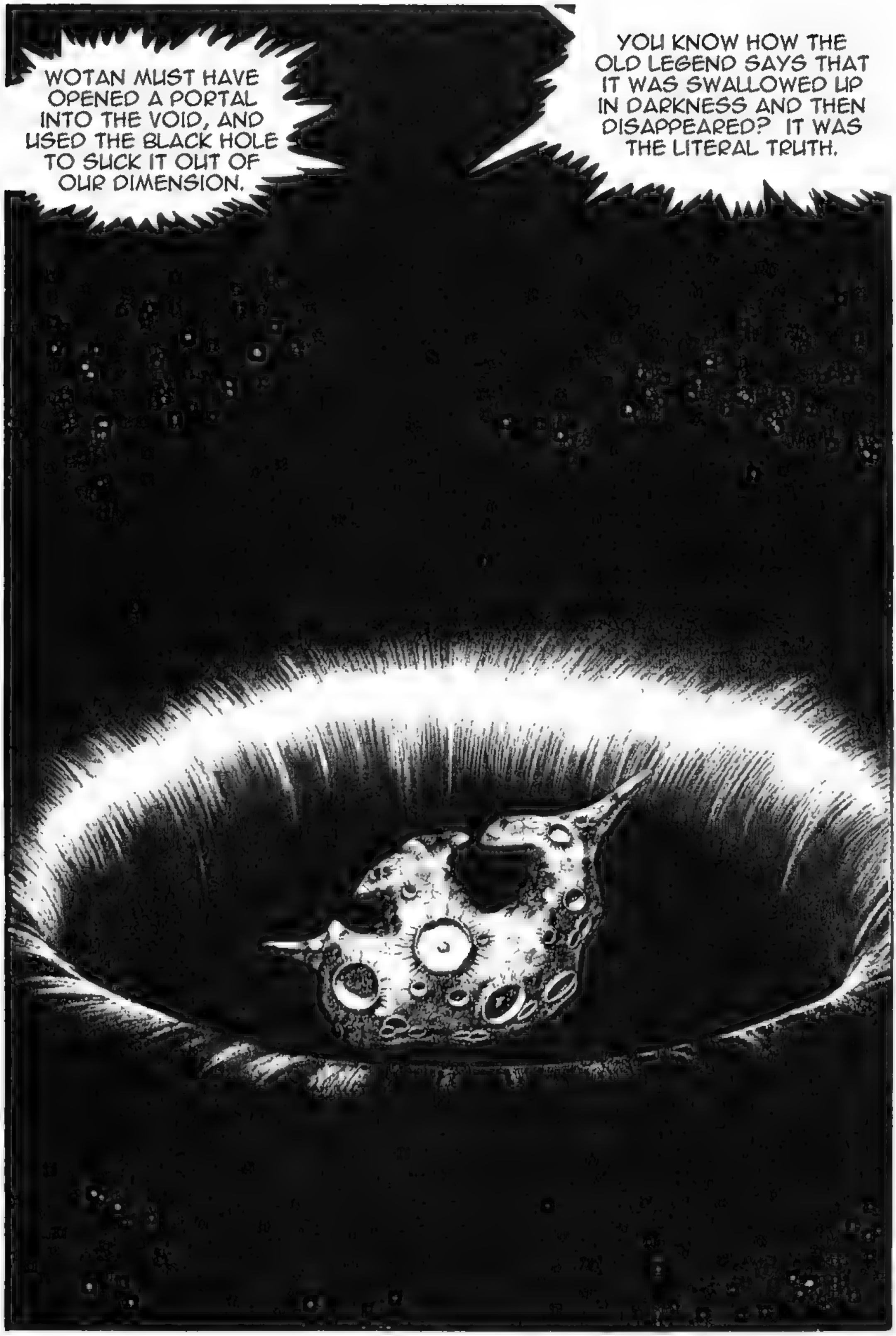
THIS THING IS THE SIZE OF A SMALL GALAXY IN OUR RING OF TIME.

AHEAD OF THE CASKET?

AND SEE THAT SPOT?

THAT, MY FRIEND, I BELIEVE TO BE THE LOST PLANET RHINE.

FREYA SAID IT WOULD BE HERE -- AND THERE IT IS!


WOTAN MUST HAVE OPENED A PORTAL INTO THE VOID, AND USED THE BLACK HOLE TO SUCK IT OUT OF OUR DIMENSION.
YOU KNOW HOW THE OLD LEGEND SAYS THAT IT WAS SWALLOWED UP IN DARKNESS AND THEN DISAPPEARED? IT WAS THE LITERAL TRUTH.

... AND I'LL BET YOU DOLLARS TO DOUGHNUTS I'LL MAKE A HARD LANDING ON ITS SURFACE.

EVENTUALLY, THAT CRYSTAL CASKET'S GOING TO CATCH UP WITH RHINE ...

IT WILL?

THE GRAVITATIONAL FORCES OF THE BLACK HOLE WILL FORCE IT THERE -- AND IT'LL BE A LOT SAFER TO TRY TO APPROACH RHINE ON THE EVENT HORIZON THAN TRYING IT WITH THAT TINY LITTLE CASKET.

I DON'T FOLLOW YOU.

WELL ... I SAY, "A LOT SAFER." IT'S STILL ONE HELLUVA RISK, PHANTOM. THEN AGAIN, I'M ONE HELLUVA PILOT, AS YOU WELL KNOW. WHADDYA THINK? WANT TO TAKE THE CHANCE? FOR THEIR SAKES?

THE AREA AROUND RHINE IS UNUSALLY CLEAR OF DEBRIS FOR A BLACK HOLE -- OF ANY SIZE.

THAT'S ANOTHER THING I'M COUNTING ON. I THINK OUR DIVINE PALS HAVE SOME KIND OF DAMPING FIELD AROUND IT. ONCE WE GET INSIDE, WE'LL BE AS SAFE AS IN OUR OWN DIMENSION.

THIS IS REALLY RISKY, TOSHIRO ... ALMOST TOO RISKY. ONE FALSE MOVE, AND WE'RE ALL DEAD -- INCLUDING OUR TWO BOYS.

I'M GAME IF YOU ARE, HARLOCK.

AREN'T YOU THE ONE WHO'S ALWAYS TELLING ME THAT THE ONLY BAD RISK IS THE ONE YOU DON'T TAKE?!?!

WE DON'T HAVE ANY CHOICE IF WE'RE GOING TO RESCUE BRUNHILDE AND HER SISTERS!!

IT'S OKAY, TOSHIRO. YOU'RE RIGHT, AND I ADMIT IT. I'D BE A FOOL IF I DIDN'T.

I-I'M SORRY, PHANTOM. I SHOULDN'T HAVE YELLED AT YOU LIKE THAT.

THANK YOU, HARLOCK.

TRY TO COAX THE MAIN COMPUTER BACK TO SANITY, THEN SEE IF YOU CAN COME UP WITH A COURSE SOLUTION FOR YOUR PLAN. FAIR ENOUGH, MY FRIEND?

IT IS THE ONLY WAY WE CAN RESCUE THEM.

WE'RE GOING TO SLINGSHOT INTO THE BLACK HOLE?!

THIS IS A FREAKIN' BLACK HOLE -- NOT SOMEBODY'S BACK YARD!!

"SOMETIMES THE ONLY WAY POSSIBLE IS STRAIGHT THROUGH THE MIDDLE OF THE IMPOSSIBLE."

*

REMEMBER THE EARTH STORY I MADE BOTH OF YOU READ ABOUT ACCOMPLISHING THE IMPOSSIBLE?

DAD'S CRAZY! THAT THING IS GIGANTIC!! IMPOSSIBLE!!!

AFTER ALL THIS TIME, YOU DOUBT YOUR FATHER'S SKILL?

... THEN YOU WILL NEVER BECOME THE MEN YOU ARE DESTINED TO BE.

IF YOU TWO BOYS CANNOT LEARN FROM THE EXAMPLES OF YOUR FATHERS, AND OCCASIONALLY ATTEMPT THE IMPOSSIBLE ...

(*) RICHARD THURMAN, "THE COUNTESS AND THE IMPOSSIBLE"

GOOD!

WE HAVE A DESTINY TO FULFILL! AND THAT MEANS TAKING ON THE IMPOSSIBLE ... WELL ... I'LL DO IT!!!

WHY DO YOU SAY THAT? AHH ... YOU ARE THINKING OF THE TWO YOUNG WOMEN YOU MET ON METABLOODY, MAETEL AND EMERALDAS.

THUT

THANKS, MIIME. WE'VE JUST GOT TO MAKE IT!

I'M SUPPOSED TO SEE HER AGAIN! HOW CAN I DO THAT IF I'M DEAD?!

DUDE ... YOU'RE HOPELESS.

... AND THERE IS ALSO THE YOUNG WOMAN YOU WILL MEET SOMEDAY.

TOCHIRO IS CORRECT, YOUNG HARLOCK ...

FINDING YOUR LOVED ONES ... BUILDING YOUR ARCADIA ... LIVING A LIFE OF FREEDOM ON THE SEA OF STARS ... ONLY MEN WHO OVERCOME THE IMPOSSIBLE CAN ACHIEVE SUCH DREAMS.

FULFILLING ONE'S DREAMS OFTEN MEANS THAT YOU MUST OVERCOME THE IMPOSSIBLE. SUCH IS THE ROAD AHEAD FOR THE BOTH OF YOU ...

JUST DO THE BEST YOU CAN. THAT'S ALL ANYONE CAN ASK.

DAMNIT! WHAT I WOULDN'T GIVE FOR AN OLD-FASHIONED SLIDE RULE RIGHT NOW!!!

HARLOCK ...

YOU'VE SAID THAT THIS IS WELL NIGH IMPOSSIBLE -- WHICH MEANS THAT THE HARD ROAD IS THE ONLY WAY THROUGH. PLOT THE COURSE, TOSHIRO.

AND THUS BEGINS THE GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT OF GREAT HARLOCK, THE FATHER OF CAPTAIN HARLOCK! HAVING REDISCOVERED THE LEGENDARY LOST PLANET RHINE - WHERE LEGEND SAYS THE RHINEGOLD IS HIDDEN - HE HAS ALSO FOUND THE CRYSTAL CASKET OF THE IMPRISONED VALKYRIES. BOTH ARE TRAPPED WITHIN THE DARK RING OF THE EVENT HORIZON OF A BLACK HOLE IN THE VOID BETWEEN DIMENSIONS. HOW GREAT HARLOCK ACHIEVES HIS TASK IS THE STUFF OF LEGEND ... AND ECHOES SIEGFRIED'S RESCUE OF BRUNHYLD IN THE OLD TALES OF THE RING OF THE NIBELUNGS!

Siegfried

Ring 37 : The Hope of the Future

REMEMBER YOU LEGEND, HARLOCK? I WONDER IF IT'S THE POWER OF THE RHINEGOLD THAT KEEPS RHINE DEBRIS-FREE AND FROM FALLING INTO THE BLACK HOLE.

IF THAT'S TRUE, TOSHIRO, THEN NO WONDER SO MANY HAVE SOUGHT THE RHINEGOLD. IT WOULD MAKE QUITE A POWERFUL WEAPON.

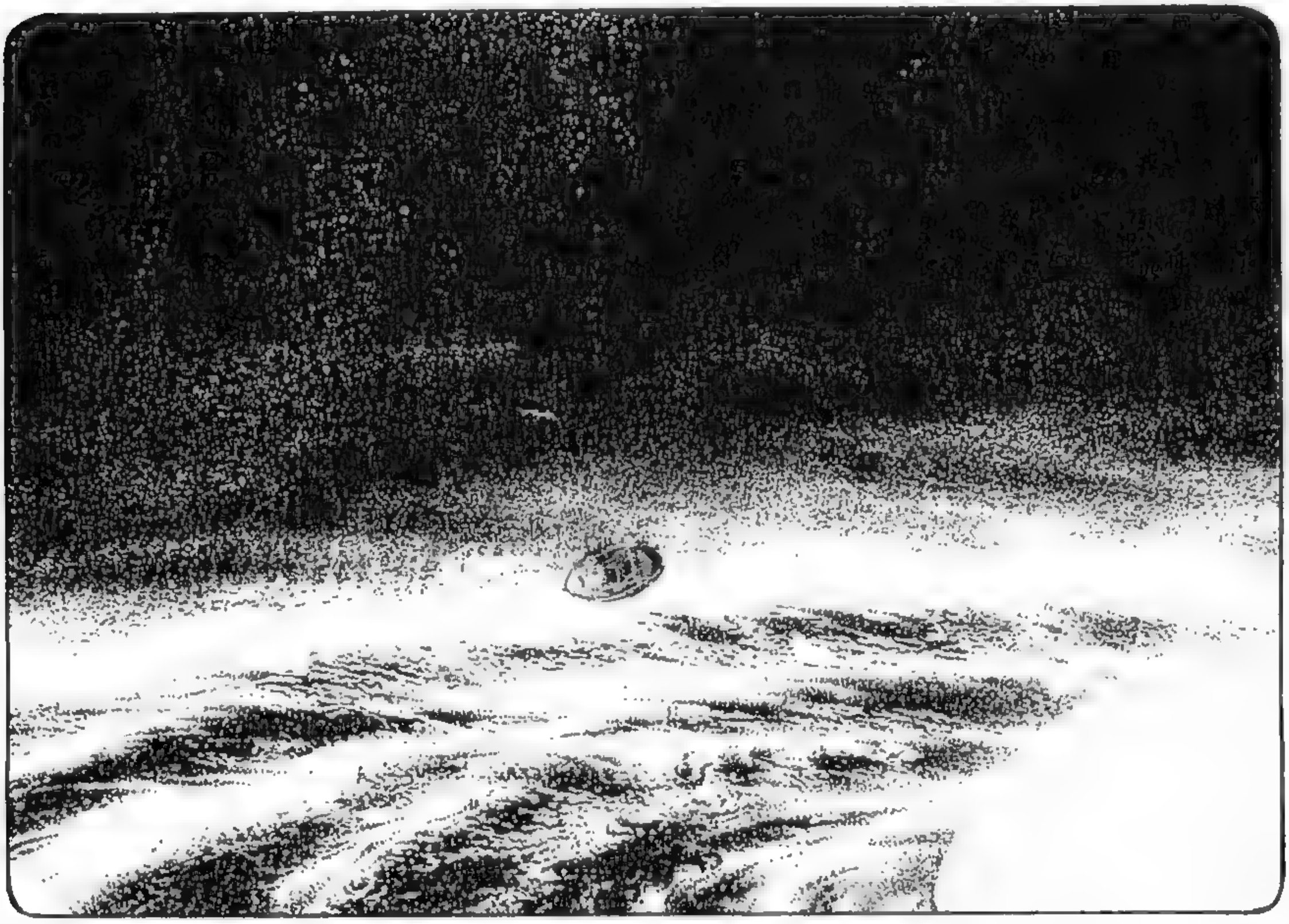
SO FAR, ONLY ONE PLOTTED THAT WILL WORK ...

HOW'S THE TRAJECTORY SOLUTION COMING?

THIRTY YEARS? IN THIS PLACE? WE DON'T HAVE THAT LUXURY! TRY AGAIN!!

BUT IT'LL TAKE THIRTY YEARS.

I'M TRYING, HARLOCK, BUT I'M HAVING TO FIGGER IT ALL BY HAND!!!



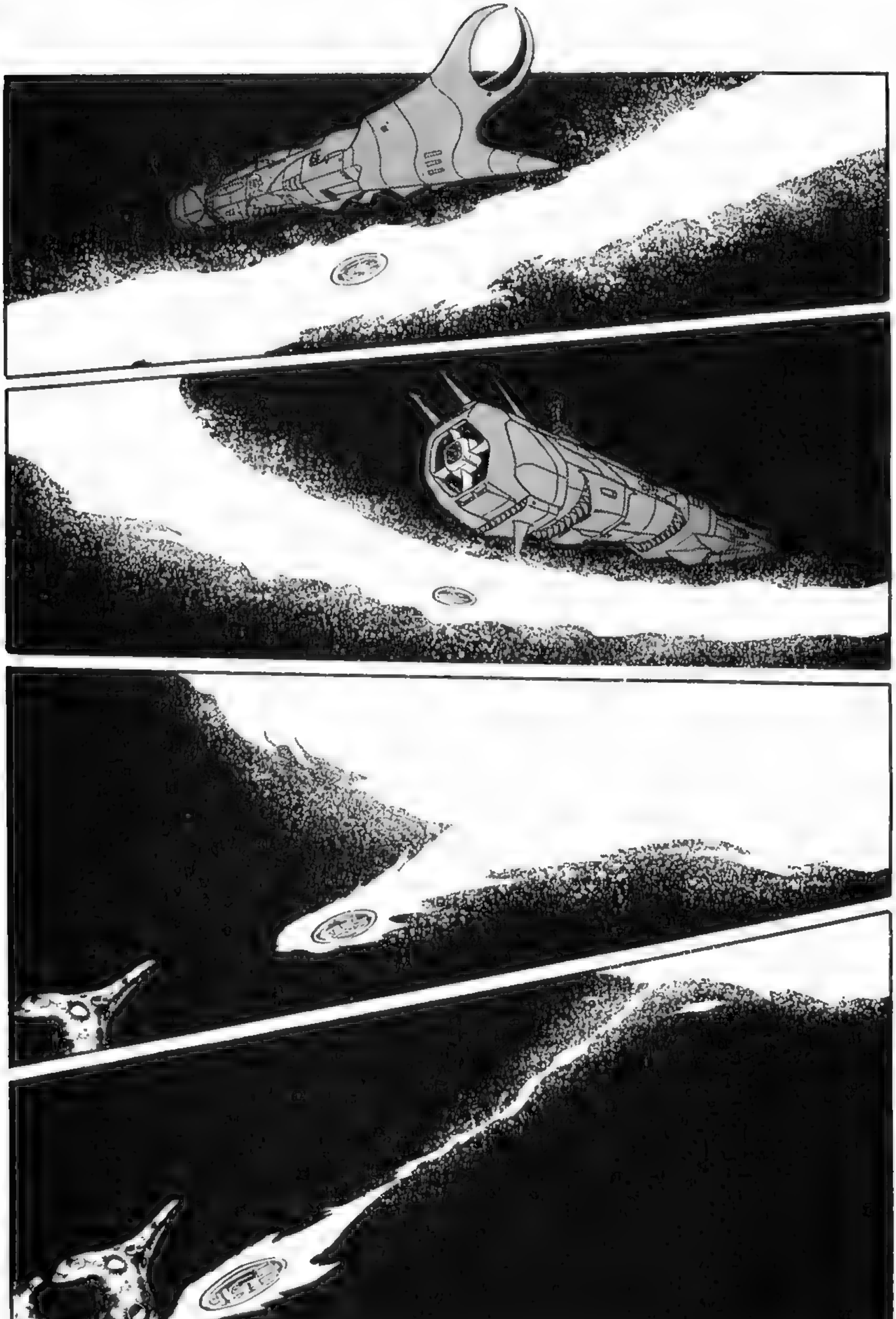
IS THERE ANY DANGER THAT THE CRYSTAL CASKET THAT IMPRISONS THE VALKYRIES ...

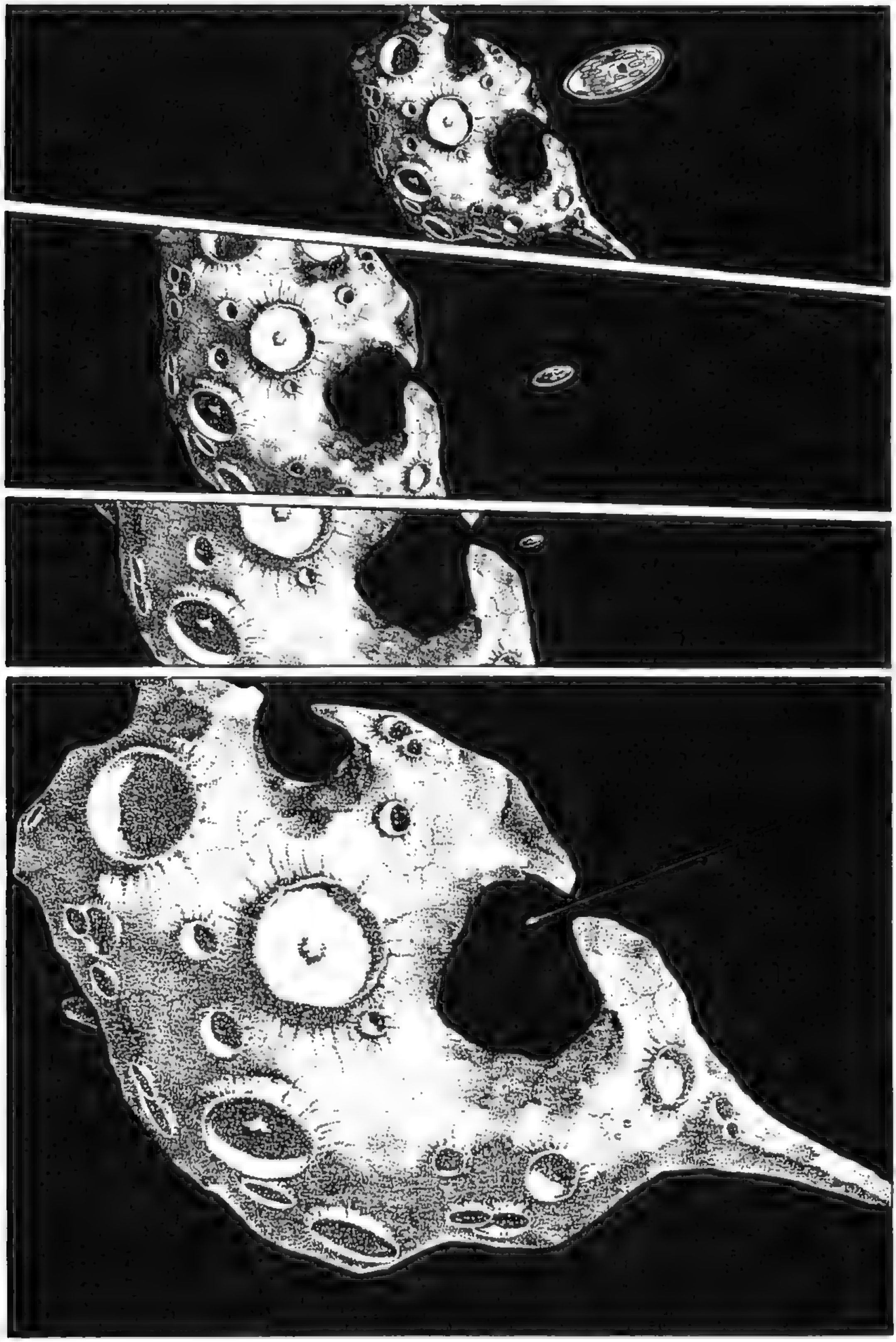
... MIGHT ALTER COURSE, OR GET HIT BY SOME DEBRIS, OR SOMETHING ELSE?

ANYTHING'S POSSIBLE, HARLOCK -- BUT I'M COUNTING ON THE PLANET RHINE TO DO THE WORST PART OF THE WORK FOR US ...

... AND AFTER THAT, WE GO IN, GRAB THE GIRLS, AND HIGH-TAIL IT OUTTA HERE!

HERE IT COMES. WATCH ....





LOOK! IT'S CRASHED ON THAT SMALL PLANET -- THE ONE AHEAD OF US!!

WE'LL STILL HAVE TO BRAVE THE BLACK HOLE TO RESCUE THEM ... BUT THE JOB WILL BE FAR EASIER NOW.

SOMEHOW I DON'T THINK THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN. DID WOTAN FORGET THE RHINEGOLD, I WONDER?

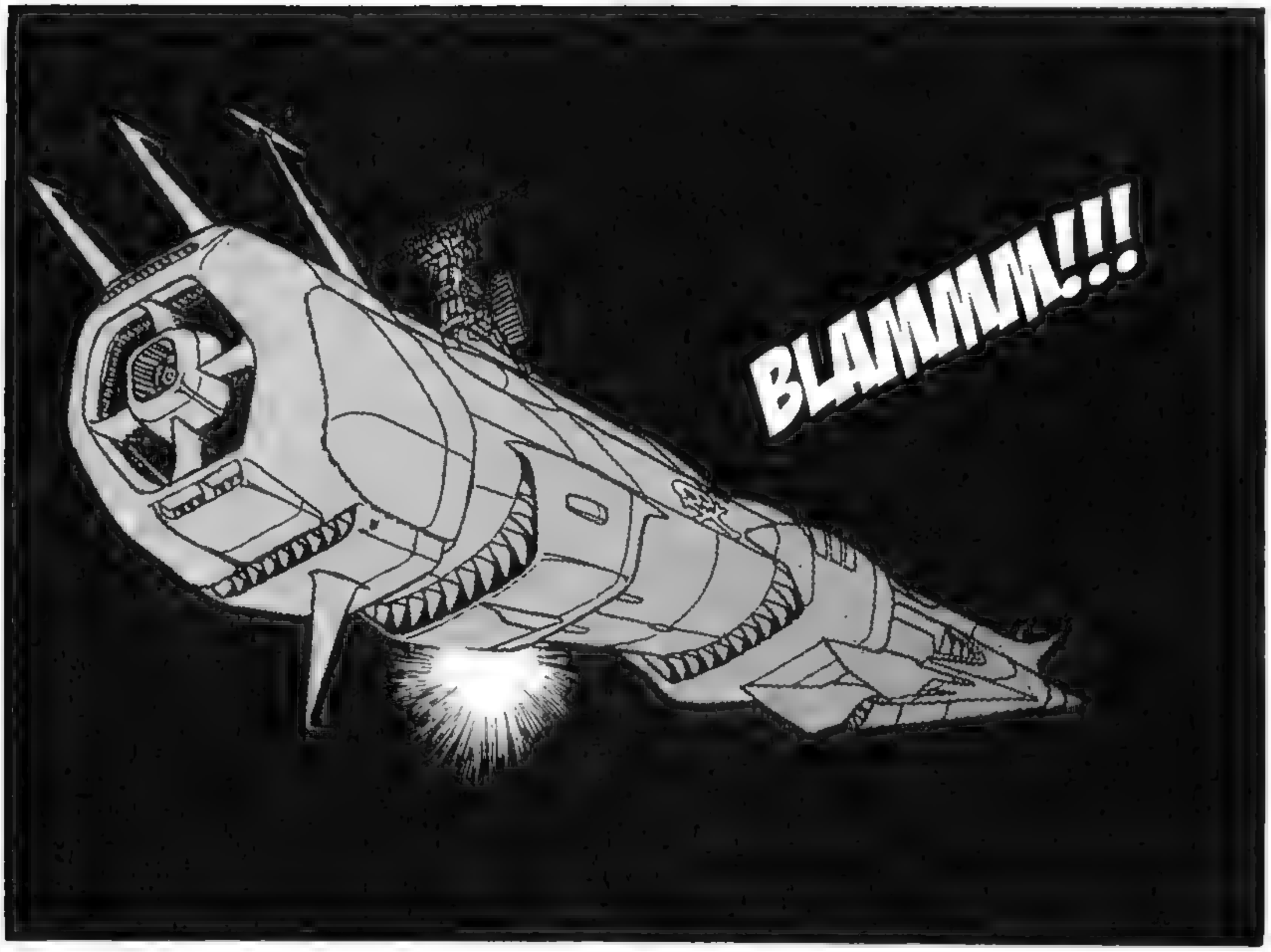
EVEN SO, THE GRAVITY PULL AROUND RHINE IS TEN TIMES STRONGER THAN THE DEATH SHADOW!

AHH! YOUR EXPERIMENTS WITH THE HELIUM-3 REACTOR.

WE'RE GOING TO NEED A LOT MORE POWER TO LAND ON RHINE, AND I KNOW WHERE WE CAN GET IT!!!

... BUT GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, PERHAPS IT IS TIME I GAVE THE BOTH OF YOU A PUSH. SHALL WE GO?

I WAS GOING TO LET YOU FIND YOUR OWN PATH. YOU WERE SO CLOSE ...


BLAMMM!!!

WHEN I GET MY HANDS ON THE BOTH OF 'EM, I'M GONNA STRING 'EM UP BY THEIR THUMBS!!
FRAME 125 -- THAT'S THE KID'S LAB, ALL RIGHT! THOSE LITTLE CRETINS! THOSE IMBECILES!! AND IN THIS PLACE, TOO!!!
THEY DIDN'T. PLEASE TELL ME THEY DIDN'T DO WHAT I THINK THEY JUST DID.
AT LEAST THE SHIP'S ALL RIGHT -- THANK GOODNESS!!!

BOY!!! GET YER ASS OUT HERE!!!

YOU TWO ARE GOING TO KILL US ALL IF YOU KEEP THIS UP!!!

SON!!-- THIS HAS GOT TO STOP -- RIGHT NOW!

UHH ...

DO YOU HAVE A DEATH WISH?!

MIIME!!!

IT'S THIS MINIATURE HELIUM-3 MOTOR THING AGAIN, ISN'T IT? *SIGH*

WE GOT IT WORKING BUT THERE WAS A PROBLEM DUE TO A FAULTY PART, AND OUR PROTOTYPE EXPLODED. AGAIN, I AM TRULY SORRY ABOUT THIS.

THIS IS MY FAULT, AND I APOLOGIZE. I WAS TRYING TO HELP THEM BUILD A MODEL OF A NEW STARSHIP ENGINE THAT MIGHT HAVE HELPED YOU IN THIS SITUATION.

UH-HUH ... WHAT HE SAID ....

IT ... IT WAS SO CLOSE, DAD ... IT ... IT ACTUALLY WORKED ... AND YOU ... YOU WOULD HAVE HAD ... ALL THE POWER ... YOU ... YOU EVER NEEDED ....

NO ... THIS ... THIS WAS ... A 1/1000TH SCALE MODEL ... A WORKING MODEL ... OF THE ENGINE ... OF THE STARSHIP ENGINE ... I HOPE TO BUILD ... SOMEDAY ...

SURELY NOT YOUR HELIUM-3 MOTOR?

... AND MADE ... A TINY BIT ... OF ANTI-MATTER.

IT WORKS ... IT'S GOING TO WORK ... BUT I DIDN'T ... THE TOLERANCE ON THE MAGNETIC FLYWHEEL .. WAS JUST ... JUST A TAD OFF ... AND WHEN WE SPUN IT UP ... IT MALFUNCTIONED ...

YOU'RE DAMN LUCKY YOU DIDN'T TURN YOU AND US INTO A BIG FLYING CLOUD OF CONFETTI!!!

YOU IDIOT!! HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU TO ALWAYS CHECK YOUR TOLERANCES!!

YEAH, YEAH.

YOU TOO, BOY!

YES, SIR.

CLEAN UP THIS MESS.

THEY ARE YOUR FATHERS. IT IS THE WAY THEY MUST ACT IN FRONT OF YOU.

I WISH DAD'LD QUIT CALLING ME "BOY!"

ALL WE WERE TRYING TO DO WAS HELP! THEY DON'T HAVE TO GET SO MAD!!

THE SAME TASK?

PERHAPS, SOMEDAY, WHEN YOU HAVE THE SAME TASK AS THEY, YOU WILL UNDERSTAND. IN THE MEANTIME, I SHALL CHANGE AND SEE IF THEY WILL LET ME FLY DOWN THERE. PERHAPS I CAN FIND A WAY TO OPEN THE CASKET.

BUT THAT IS A LONG TIME YET, AND WILL NOT HAPPEN UNTIL YOU BUILD YOUR ARCADIA.

WHEN YOU GROW UP AND HAVE CHILDREN OF YOUR OWN, YOUNG HARLOCK! AND YOU TOO, YOUNG TOCHIRO!

... AND I WILL BE THERE TO SEE IT SAIL THE SEA OF STARS IN ITS TIME ...

ARCADIA ... IT WILL BE THE MOST POWERFUL SHIP BUILT BY MAN IN THE KNOWN UNIVERSE ...

FOR ITS HISTORY IS BOUND UP WITH MINE!!!

AND IN THAT TIME, THREE OTHER GREAT SPACE BATTLESHIPS WILL FIGHT BY THE ARCADIA'S SIDE!

WHAT ARE THEY, YOU ASK?

THE REBUILT *YAMATO*, FIRST LAUNCHED IN 2199, AND NOW MANNED BY THE GALAXY RAILWAYS SPACE PANZER GRENADIERS ...

... THE TIME-TRAVELING BATTLESHIP *MAHOROBA*, LARGER SISTER SHIP OF THE *YAMATO* ...

AND THE *QUEEN EMERALDAS*, THE SAME YOU SAW ON METABLOODY.

THESE FOUR ARE DESTINED FOR THE WAR AGAINST THE METANOIDS!

... AND WHEN THOSE MIGHTY VESSELS COME TOGETHER IN COMMON CAUSE, THEN MAY THEIR FOES FLEE BEFORE THEM!!!

THESE FOUR SPACE BATTLESHIPS ARE DESTINED TO FIGHT TOGETHER IN THAT FAR-OFF FUTURE WAR ...

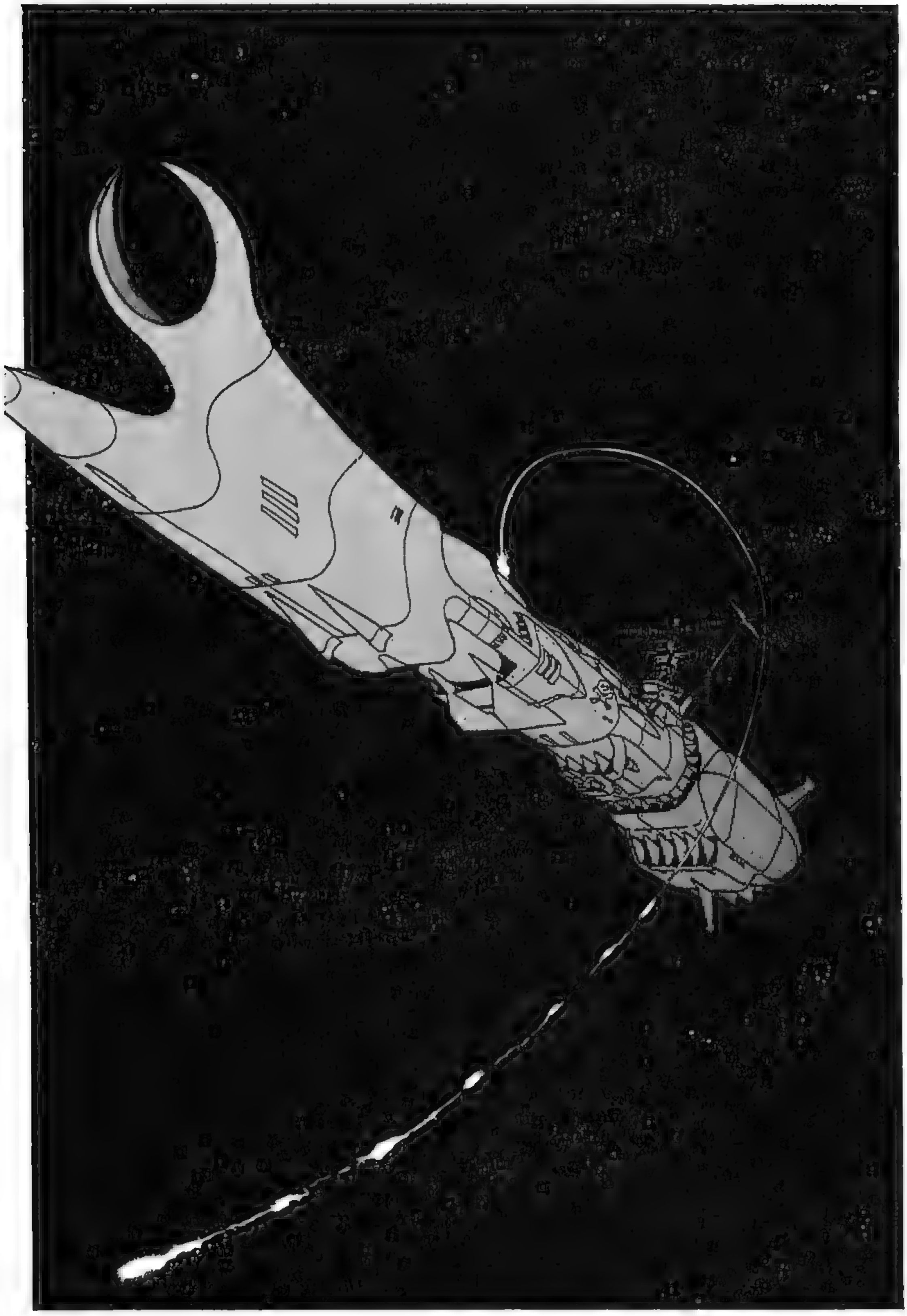
MIIME SAID IT LOOKED LIKE IT WAS BROKEN, BUT SHE MIGHT STILL BE ABLE TO GET IT TO WORK.

UH-HUH.

SO THAT'S A COSMIC ORGAN.

THE PLAN IS FOR HER TO GO DOWN THERE AND SEE IF SHE CAN GET THAT BROKEN ORGAN TO TURN ON BY REMOTE CONTROL SHE CAN THEN USE IT TO GENERATE A SIGNAL AT THE RIGHT FREQUENCY TO SHATTER THE CASKET AND FREE ITS PRISONERS.

I HOPE SHE CAN DO IT.



EVER SINCE THE BIRTH OF THE UNIVERSE, THE TIES BETWEEN FRIENDS HAVE BEEN STRONG INDEED ...

WHAT?!

THEY'RE WHERE?!

HOW CAN THAT BE?!

... AND NO ONE CAN BREAK THEM, NO MATTER HOW HARD THEY TRY. THAT TOO IS PART OF A MAN'S DESTINY: TO HAVE THE FRIENDS MOST SUITED TO AID HIM IN ANY TASK FATE HAS LAID IN STORE.

Siegfried

Ring 38 : Asteroid 6565 Reiji

I SENT MIIME DOWN TO THE CRYSTAL CASKET. SHE KNOWS MORE ABOUT THOSE COSMIC ORGANS THAN ANY OF US.

SHE BELIEVES SHE CAN FREE BRUNHILDE AND HER SISTERS. I DECIDED TO LET HER TRY.

OKAY, SO MIIME SHATTERS THE CRYSTAL AND FREES BRUNHILDE AND HER SISTERS. THEN WHAT?

WE BOUNCE OFF OF THAT FORCE FIELD AROUND THE PLANET RHINE, AND USE IT TO CATAPULT US OUT OF HERE.

YOU MAKE IT SOUND SO EASY.

SO, IN OTHER WORDS, WE'LL BE TAPPING THE POWER OF THE RHINEGOLD WITHOUT ACTUALLY HAVING TO HAVE IT IN OUR HANDS, RIGHT?

I NEVER THOUGHT OF IT LIKE THAT, BUT YES -- THAT'S ESSENTIALLY IT.

HERE'S THE CATCH: THE MOMENT SHE ACTIVATES THE ORGAN, IT WILL INTERACT WITH BOTH RHINE'S GRAVITY FIELD AND THAT FORCE FIELD GENERATED BY THE RHINEGOLD.

IF IT'S AS MIIME SAYS, AND ALL IT REALLY NEEDS IS A NEW SET OF PIPES, WE CAN BUILD THOSE FOR HER.

IN OTHER WORDS, IT'LL JACKKNIFE OUT OF ORBIT OF THE BLACK HOLE. MIIME WILL HAVE TO USE THE ORGAN'S MUSICAL RADIATION TO STEER THE PLANET. THAT'S GOING TO BE A BITCH!

YES. SHE'LL HELP YOU RIG A LINK BETWEEN THE ORGAN AND THE DEATH SHADOW'S NAVIGATION SYSTEM. ONCE THAT'S DONE, PLANET RHINE WILL FOLLOW US BACK INTO OUR RING OF TIME ...

UNTIL THEN, WE'LL HAVE TO HELP GUIDE HER, RIGHT?

... WHICH IS WHERE FREYA SAID IT WOULD END UP.

SHE'S NOT ALONE DOWN THERE, YOU KNOW. ACCORDING TO HER, THE THREE RHINEMAIDENS WHO GUARD THE RHINEGOLD ARE THERE, AND THEY CAN HELP HER WITH THE ORGAN.

IT WAS NICE OF WOTAN TO GIVE US A KEY TO THIS JAIL.

YES. SO SHE SAID.

IF MIIME'S GOING TO BE DOWN THERE AT THE ORGAN, THEN SHE CAN'T TUTOR THE BOYS ANYMORE.

WHAT -- YOU DON'T THINK ME AND MIIME CAN DO IT?!

IT'S GOING TO BE A TRICKY TRIP BACK -- PLAYING SHEPHERD TO A PLANET THAT CAN ONLY STEER ITSELF BY THE CRUDEST OF MEANS.

UHH ... YEAH.

IT'LL BE NO DIFFERENT THAN TRYING TO FIND A NAKED WOMAN IN THE DARK.

LIKE US, AT THAT AGE.

THOSE BOYS ... THEY JUST WANTED TO HELP, EVEN IF THEIR EXECUTION WAS A BIT OFF.

EVEN WORSE, IF WHAT WE'VE SEEN SO FAR IS ANY INDICATION ... AND IF OUR SONS DO BUILD THAT STARSHIP THEY'RE ALWAYS GOING ON ABOUT, THEY'RE GOING TO BE QUITE THE FORMIDABLE PAIR.

YOU THINK THEY'LL BE AS BAD AS US WHEN THEY GROW UP?

THE ARCADIA ... A FINE NAME FOR A SHIP!!!

TRUE ... BUT IT WAS ALSO SAID THE DEATH SHADOW WAS AN IMPOSSIBLE SHIP TO BUILD.

YOU KNOW, IF THAT BOY PUTS IN EVEN HALF THE THINGS HE SAYS HE'S GOING TO, IT'LL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO BUILD.

HAVE YOU SEEN THE VIRTUAL MODEL YOUR SON MADE? ACTUALLY, IT'S A RATHER IMPRESSIVE VESSEL. YOU SHOULD TAKE A LOOK.

PLUS, THERE'S ALL THIS DAMN EXPERIMENTING THEY DO FOR THE STUFF THEY'RE GOING TO PUT IN THEIR SHIP -- AND ON OUR SHIP! AI-YI-YI ....

THEY'VE BLOWN SO MANY HOLES IN THE HULL OUR SIDES LOOK LIKE A PATCHWORK QUILT!

I SEEM TO TO RECALL WE DID THE SAME TO MY FATHER'S SHIP ....

I'LL MAKE SURE IT ALL WORKS IN THIS SHIP FIRST, BEFORE I BUILD THE ARCADIA! HOW'S THAT SOUND?

IT'LL BE THE ARCADIA'S PROTOTYPE! NOT AS REFINED OR AS POWERFUL, BUT STILL DAMN IMPRESSIVE!

KEEP YOUR SHIPS STRAIGHT, HARLOCK. THIS IS THE DEATH SHADOW 2 -- IN WHICH I'M GOING TO TEST ALL MY IDEAS FIRST.

AT THE RATE YOU'RE GOING, TOCHIRO, YOU'LL BE OLD AND GRAY BEFORE YOU EVEN START THE ARCADIA!

DURATEKTITE BLAST WALLS. JUST IN CASE.

YOU PUT THEM IN HERE?

I WILL NOT, YOU LOWBROW MORON! I'LL BUILD MY SHIP IF IT'S THE LAST THING I EVER DO!!!

SOMEPLACE THAT WON'T MIND US HAVING A SMALL PLANET TRAILING US ALL THE WAY ...

HMMM ... LET'S SEE ...

WHERE'S OUR CLOSEST SECRET BASE?

ONCE WE GET BACK, WE'LL NEED TO LAY OVER FOR A WHILE, DO REPAIRS, AND REST.

WELL HURRY UP! I GET THE FEELING WOTAN ALREADY KNOWS WE'RE HERE, SO WE NEED TO HAUL ASS PRONTO!

THAT WINDBAG? BRING 'EM ON! I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO TANGLE WITH A GOD!!!

I'LL PUT MY DEATH SHADOW AGAINST ANYTHING HE'S GOT ANY DAY OF THE WEEK!!!

I FOUND THE IDEAL PLACE FOR US TO LAY OVER!

YOU JUST--

AH-HAH! I FOUND IT!!

... AND THEN REBUILT AS A SECRET MOBILE BASE! OH, IF ONLY THE GUYS WHO DISCOVERED IT COULD SEE IT NOW!

IT'S ONE OF THE SMALL ASTEROIDS WE "ENCOURAGED" TO LEAVE THE SOL SYSTEM A FEW YEARS BACK ...

The MINOR PLANET CIRCULAR / MINOR PLANETS AND COMETS
Commission 20 of the International Astronomical Union, usually in batches on the date of each full moon, by

Minor Planet Center
Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, Cambridge, MA 02138, U.S.A.
IAUSUBS@CFA.HARVARD.EDU or FAX 617-495-7231 (subscriptions)
BMARSDEN@CFA.HARVARD.EDU or GWILLIAMS@CFA.HARVARD.EDU (science)
Phone 617-495-7244/7440/7444 (for emergency use only)
World-Wide-Web address *http://cfa-www.harvard.edu/cfa/ps/mpc.html*

(6565)
REIJI

(6565) Reiji = 1992 FT

Discovered 1992 Mar. 23 by K. Endate and K. Watanabe at Kitami.

Named in honor of Reiji Matsumoto (b. 1938), whose many scientific cartoons are held in high regard among young people in Japan. As chief director of the Young Astronauts Club of Japan, he endeavors to educate future generations to participate in the development of sapace. Name proposed by the second discoverer following a suggestion by K. Tomita.

M. P. C. 30 099 1997 JUNE 20

(6565) *1992 FT = 1977 RZ10 = 1982 BQ10
Discovered 1992 Mar. 23 by K. Endate and K. Watanabe at Kitami.
Id. H. Kaneda (MPC 20 036)
Epoch 1995 Oct. 10.0 TT = JDT 2 450 000.5 Nakano

M	16.30760	(2000.0)	P	Q	
n	0.30801907	Peri.	54.54726	-0.85836451	+0.51276560
a	2.1714557	Node	156.28740	-0.48319639	-0.79700260
e	0.0297998	Incl.	2.39244	-0.17242859	-0.31915246

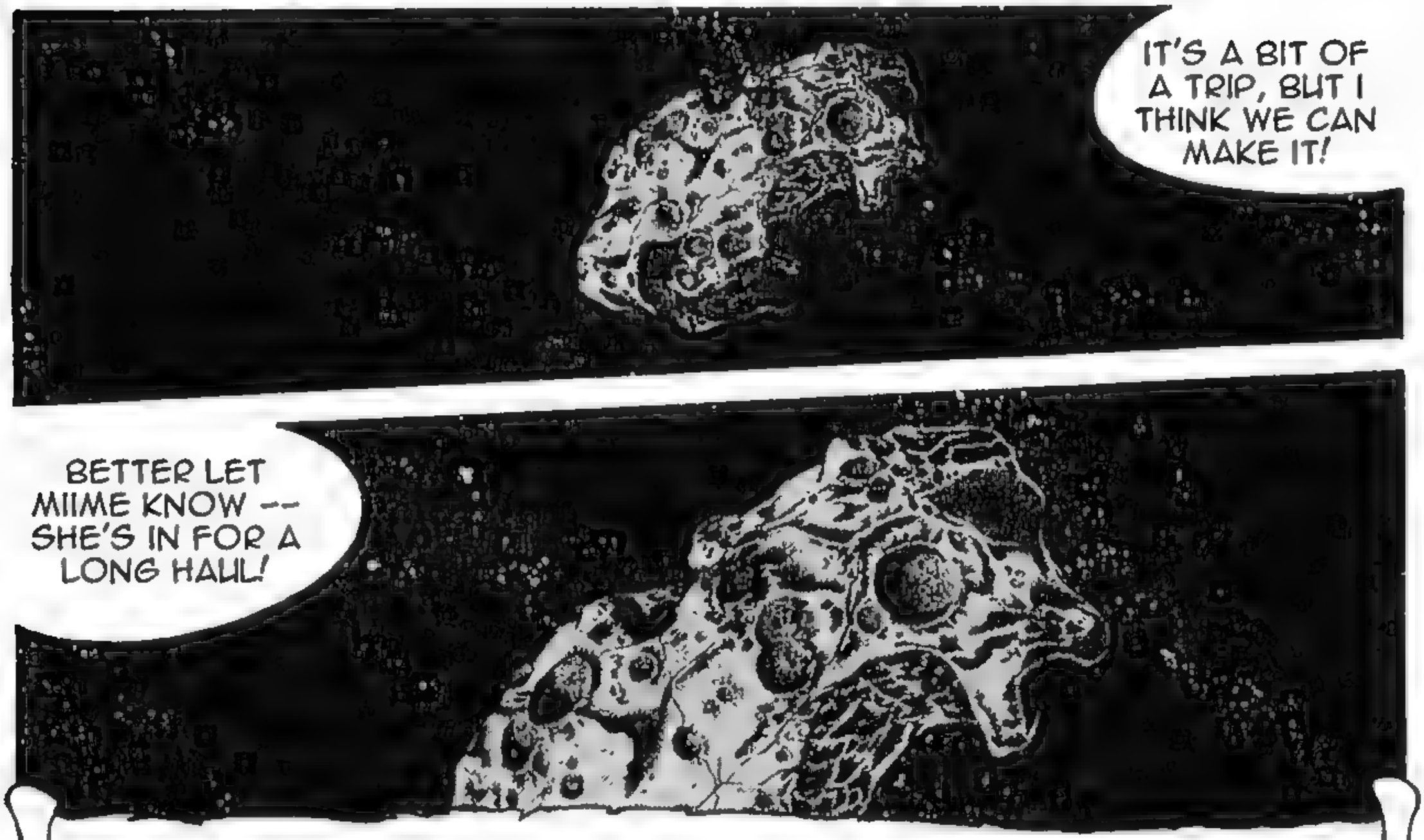
P 3.20 H 13.8 G 0.15 U 2

Residuals in seconds of arc

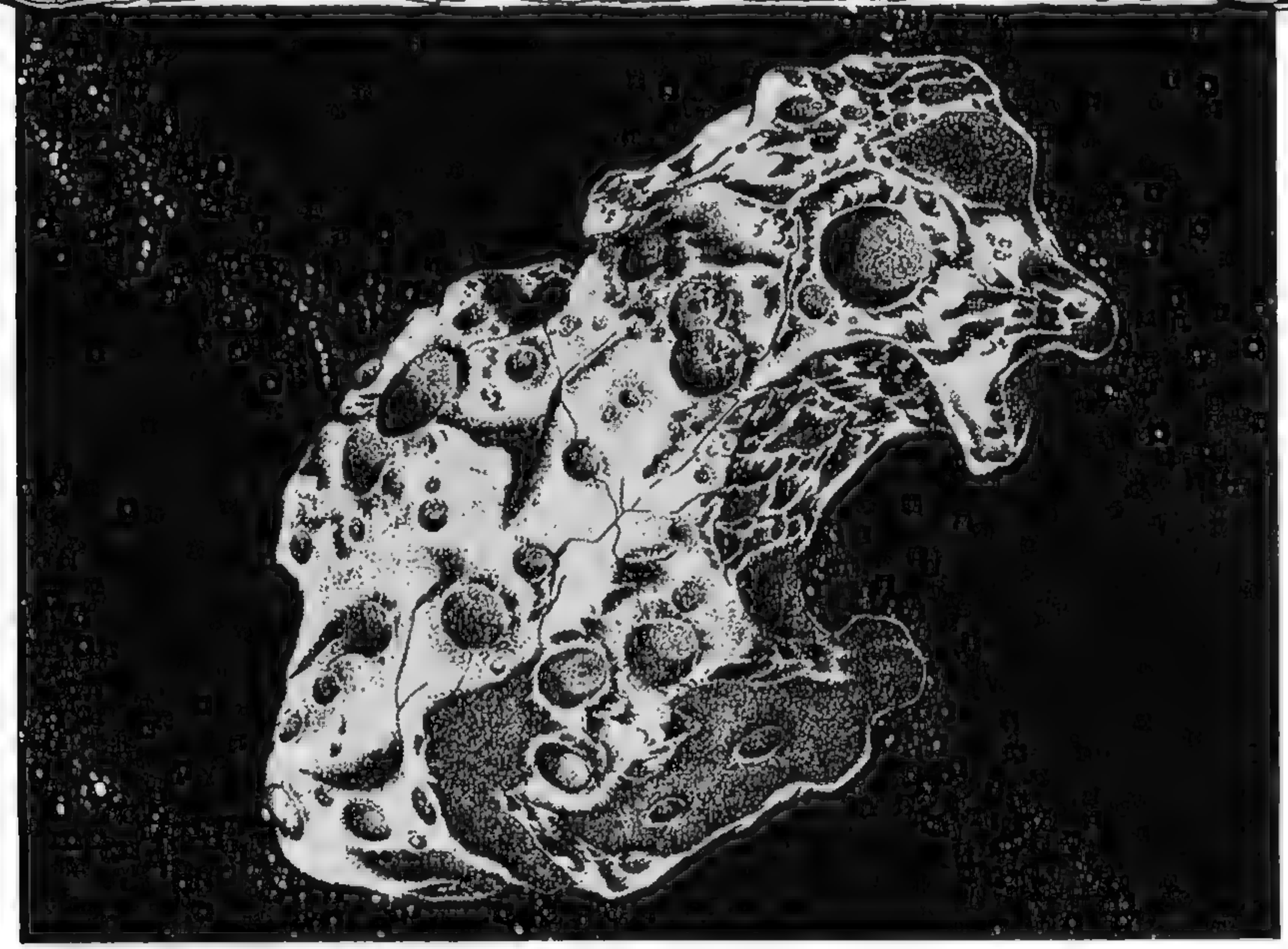
770909	675	(0.3-	2.7-)	920330	691	0.0	0.2-	950305	400	0.9+	0.1+
770910	675	0.1+	0.1-	920403	400	1.0+	0.0	950307	563	(2.8-	1.4-)
820119	095	0.8+	1.8-	920403	400	(4.3+	0.9-)	950307	563	0.6-	0.0
820120	095	0.2-	1.9-	931117	595	0.1+	1.9+	950307	563	(0.1-	3.1+)
871126	675	1.3-	0.3-	931117	595	0.0	1.9+	950307	563	(3.5+	0.2-)
871126	675	1.1-	1.0+	931117	595	0.0	0.9+	950328	801	0.0	0.3+
920323	400	0.2+	0.2-	950224	098	1.0-	1.0+	950328	801	0.1-	0.3+
920323	400	0.4-	0.4+	950224	098	0.8-	1.3+	950328	801	0.1+	0.2+
920324	400	1.4+	0.3+	950225	400	1.2+	0.3+	950329	801	0.2+	0.0
920324	400	(4.3+	2.7-)	950225	400	0.7+	0.4-	950329	801	0.3+	0.0
920326	399	2.0-	1.9+	950225	098	(2.9-	0.4+)	950403	801	0.4-	0.3+
920326	399	1.0-	0.1+	950226	098	0.9-	0.1+	950403	801	0.1+	0.0
920330	691	0.0	0.1+	950304	400	1.5+	0.2+				
920330	691	0.1+	0.1-	950304	400	1.0+	0.4-				

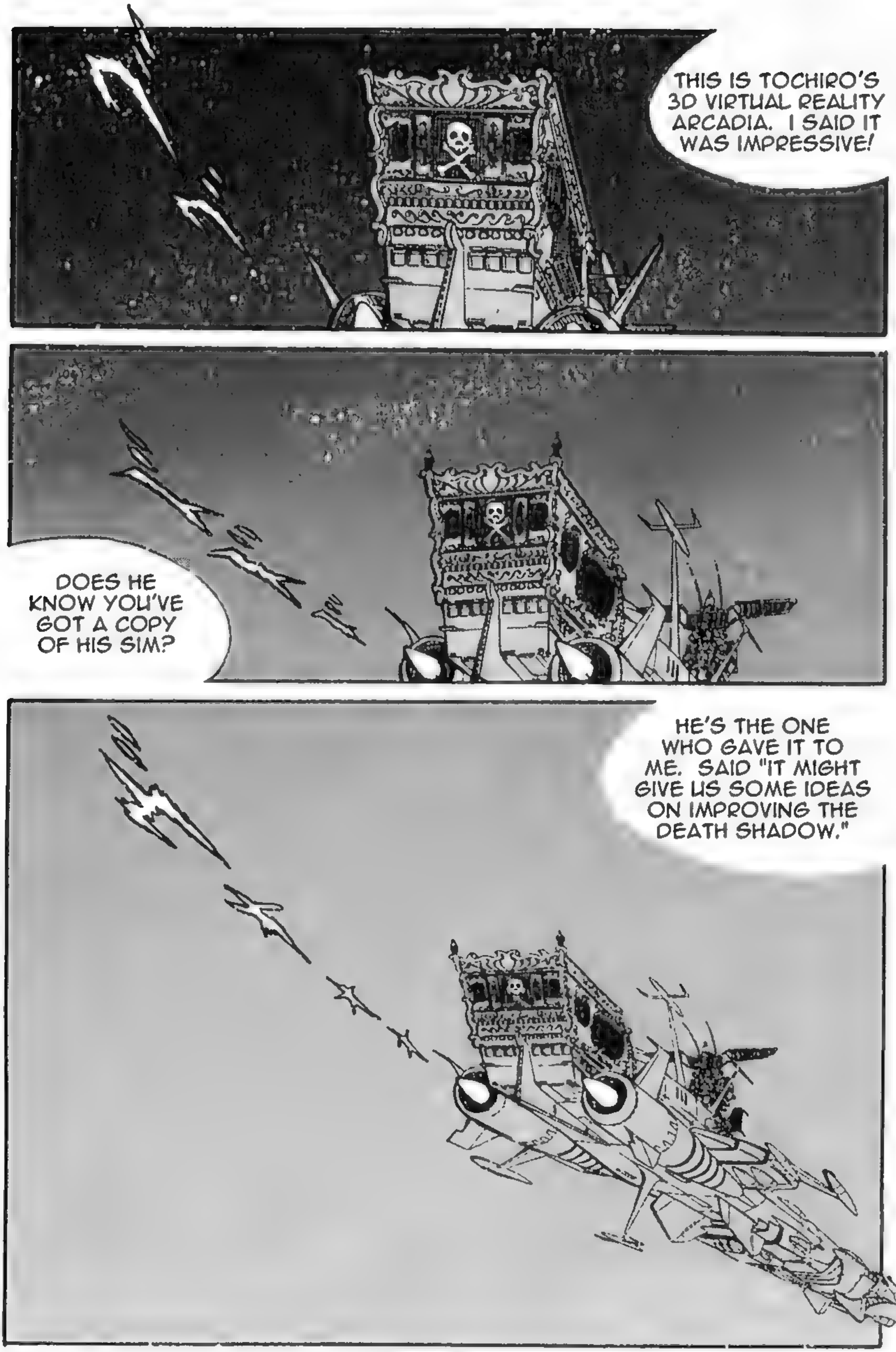
M. P. C. 25 633 1995 SEPT. 9

ASTERIOD 6565 REIJI REALLY EXISTS, FOLKS! IT WAS NAMED IN HONOR OF LEIJI MATSUMOTO ("REIJI" IS ANOTHER WAY OF ROMANIZING HIS FIRST NAME). THIS IS AN EDITED COPY OF THE OFFICIAL CERTIFICATE OF DISCOVERY, FROM THE MINOR PLANET CENTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE, UNITED STATES.



ASTEROID 6565 REIJI WAS DISCOVERED IN 1998 BY THE OBSERVATORY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO. IT WAS APPROXIMATELY 50 KILOMETERS IN DIAMETER (ABOUT 34 MILES) AND WAS A MEMBER OF THE INNER ASTEROID BELT, ORBITING BETWEEN MARS AND JUPITER.




THIS IS TOCHIRO'S 3D VIRTUAL REALITY ARCADIA. I SAID IT WAS IMPRESSIVE!
DOES HE KNOW YOU'VE GOT A COPY OF HIS SIM?
HE'S THE ONE WHO GAVE IT TO ME. SAID "IT MIGHT GIVE US SOME IDEAS ON IMPROVING THE DEATH SHADOW."

I HEARD FROM MIIME A LITTLE WHILE AGO. WORK ON REPAIRING THE ORGAN IS ALMOST COMPLETE. SHE'LL CALL AGAIN WHEN SHE'S READY.

ARROGANT BASTARD. STILL, I HAVE TO HAND IT TO HIM. WHEN THAT BOY DREAMS, HE GOES ALL OUT, BALLS TO THE WALL! THIS IS ... SOMETHING ELSE!

... AND IN THE PLANET-WIDE CATACLYSM THAT FOLLOWED, ALL THE RECORDS WERE LOST. FINALLY, WHEN HE WAS 86, HE FOUND A WAY TO GO THERE AND LEFT A MARKER BEHIND TELLING HIS STORY.

DO YOU KNOW THE STORY BEHIND 6565 REIJI? SUPPOSEDLY IT WAS DISCOVERED BY ONE OF MY ANCESTORS BACK BACK IN 1998. A YEAR LATER LAMAETEL MADE A CLOSE PASS OF EARTH ...

AS THE STORY GOES, HE NEVER SAW MORE JOY IN A MAN'S FACE THAN HE DID ON HIS GRANDFATHER'S ON THAT DAY.

SUPPOSEDLY IT WAS HIS GRANDSON THAT TOOK HIM THERE.

OUR SONS WILL FEEL THE SAME, ONCE THIS DREAM BECOMES REALITY.

I CAN UNDERSTAND HOW HE MUST HAVE FELT.

NO ONE WHO WALKS OR SAILS THE SEA OF STARS CAN FEEL ANY DIFFERENT.

DO YOU THINK THE FIRST MEN INTO SPACE FELT THE SAME?

MAYBE IT'S SOMETHING MIIME DID DOWN ON THE SURFACE OF PLANET RHINE.

IF IT HAD, WE'D BE TUMBLING. NO, IT'S SOMETHING ELSE.

IS IT THE BLACK HOLE?! HAS IT GRABBED US?!

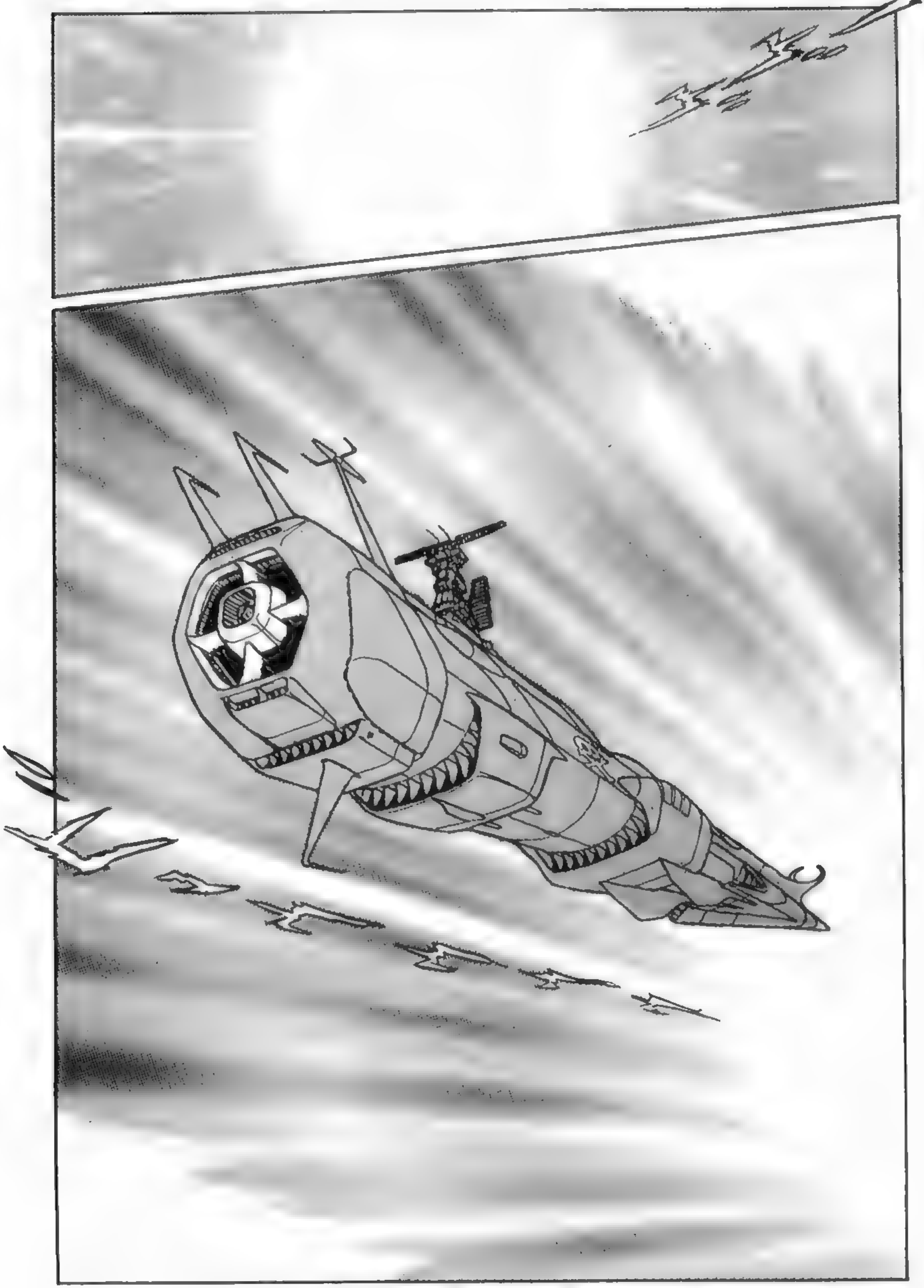
WHAT THE HELL?!?

C'MON! LET'S GET UP TO THE BRIDGE!!

HEY, THE MAIN ENGINE IS SPINNING UP! WE'RE GONNA WARP!!!

THEY MUST HAVE THE SHIP ON AUTO-- LOOK AT THE PLANET RHINE! WHAT'S GOING ON DOWN THERE?!?!

HEY! WHERE'S DAD? THE PILOT'S SEAT IS EMPTY! WHERE'S YOUR DAD?!



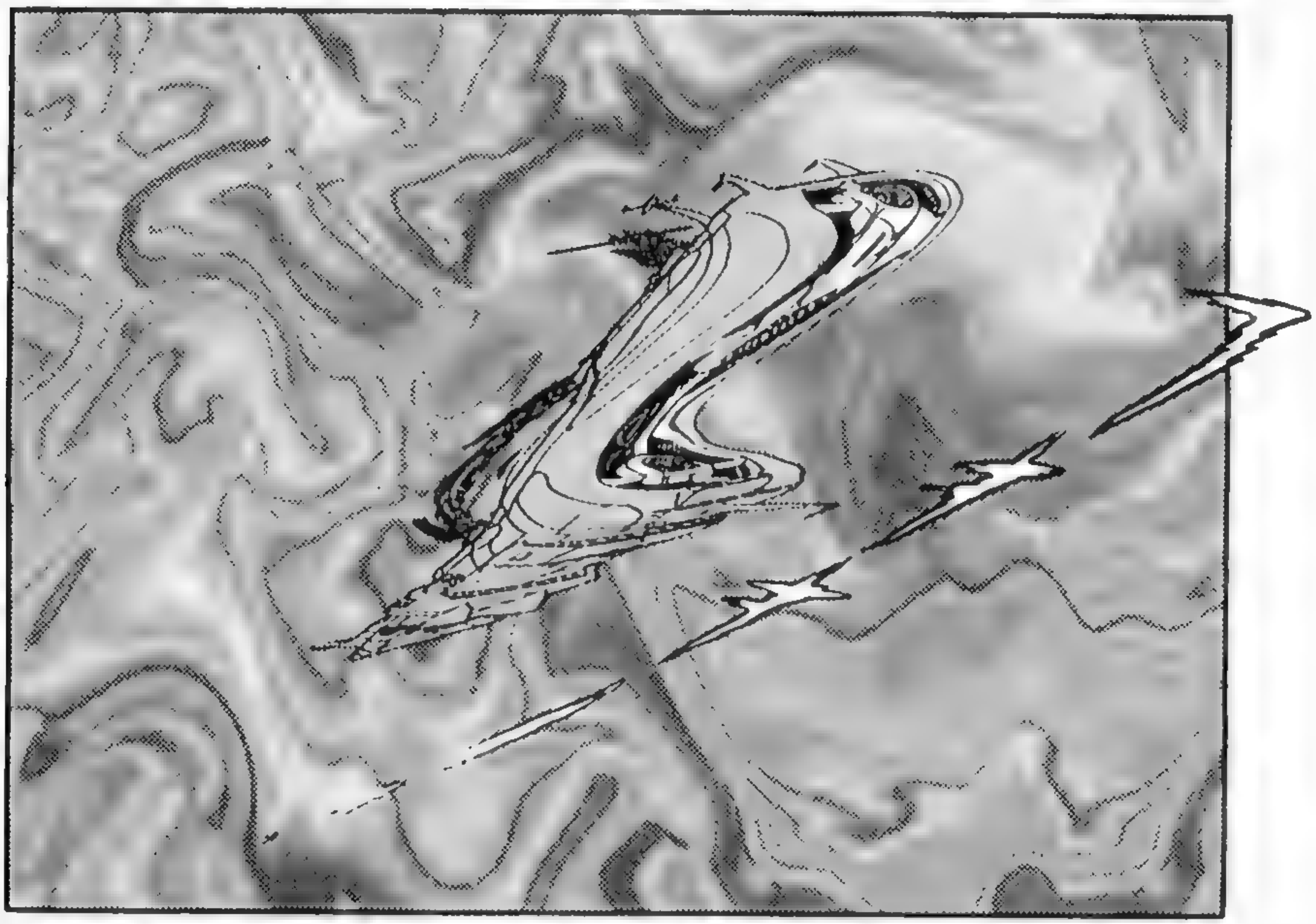
THIS WOULD BE NO PROBLEM FOR THE WAVE GRAVITY ENGINES I'M GOING TO BUILD FOR THE ARCADIA ... *IF* WE EVER MAKE IT BACK, THAT IS.

WHATEVER'S HAPPENING, IT'S STRAINING THE DEATH SHADOW'S ENGINE!!!

YOU HEAR THAT?! IT'S ORGAN MUSIC! IT MUST BE MIIME ON THE PLANET RHINE!!!

HERE WE GO! GRAB ONTO SOMETHING AND HOLD TIGHT, TOCHIRO!!!

OH, MY GOD ...



... AND THANKS TO TOCHIRO'S LINK, WE ARE NOW ON THE MOVE.

RATTLE--
RATTLE--

IT IS DIFFICULT, GREAT HARLOCK. THIS ORGAN WAS IN WORSE SHAPE THAN I THOUGHT -- BUT WITH THE HELP OF THE RHINEMAIDENS, IT HAS BEEN MADE PLAYABLE AGAIN ...

RATTLE--
RATTLE--

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE VALKYRIES? WHERE DID THEY GO, OR ARE THEY STILL THERE?

RATTLE--
RATTLE--
RATTLE--
RATTLE--

THAT'S GOOD, MIIME. YOU KNOW WHERE WE WANT TO GO. JUST GET US IN THE AREA, AND WE'LL TAKE IT FROM THERE. HARLOCK, OUT.

WE WON'T KNOW UNTIL THE WARP IS OVER ... BUT IF ANYONE CAN SUCCEED, MIIME WILL!!!

JUST AS IT IS THE DESTINY OF OUR SONS TO DEFY THE GODS, SO IT IS OUR DESTINY TO RESCUE THE PLANET RHINE FROM DARKNESS! THAT'S WHAT FREYA WAS TRYING TO TELL US!!!

WE'RE THE FIRST CHAPTER IN THE GRAND SAGA OUR SONS WILL ACT OUT!!!

OH? HOW SO?

YOU KNOW, WE'RE ACTUALLY REVERSING ONE OF THE LEGENDS OF SPACE. IT'S IRONIC, WHEN YOU ACTUALLY THINK ABOUT IT.

ACCORDING TO THE LEGEND, THE PLANET RHINE WAS SUCKED OUT OF OUR UNIVERSE BY A PORTAL LEADING INTO DARKNESS ...

... AND WE'RE NOW HELPING IT EJECT ITSELF FROM THAT SAME DARKNESS BY YET ANOTHER PORTAL. WE'LL GO DOWN IN THE HISTORY BOOKS FOR THAT, AT LEAST ... IF FOR NOTHING ELSE.

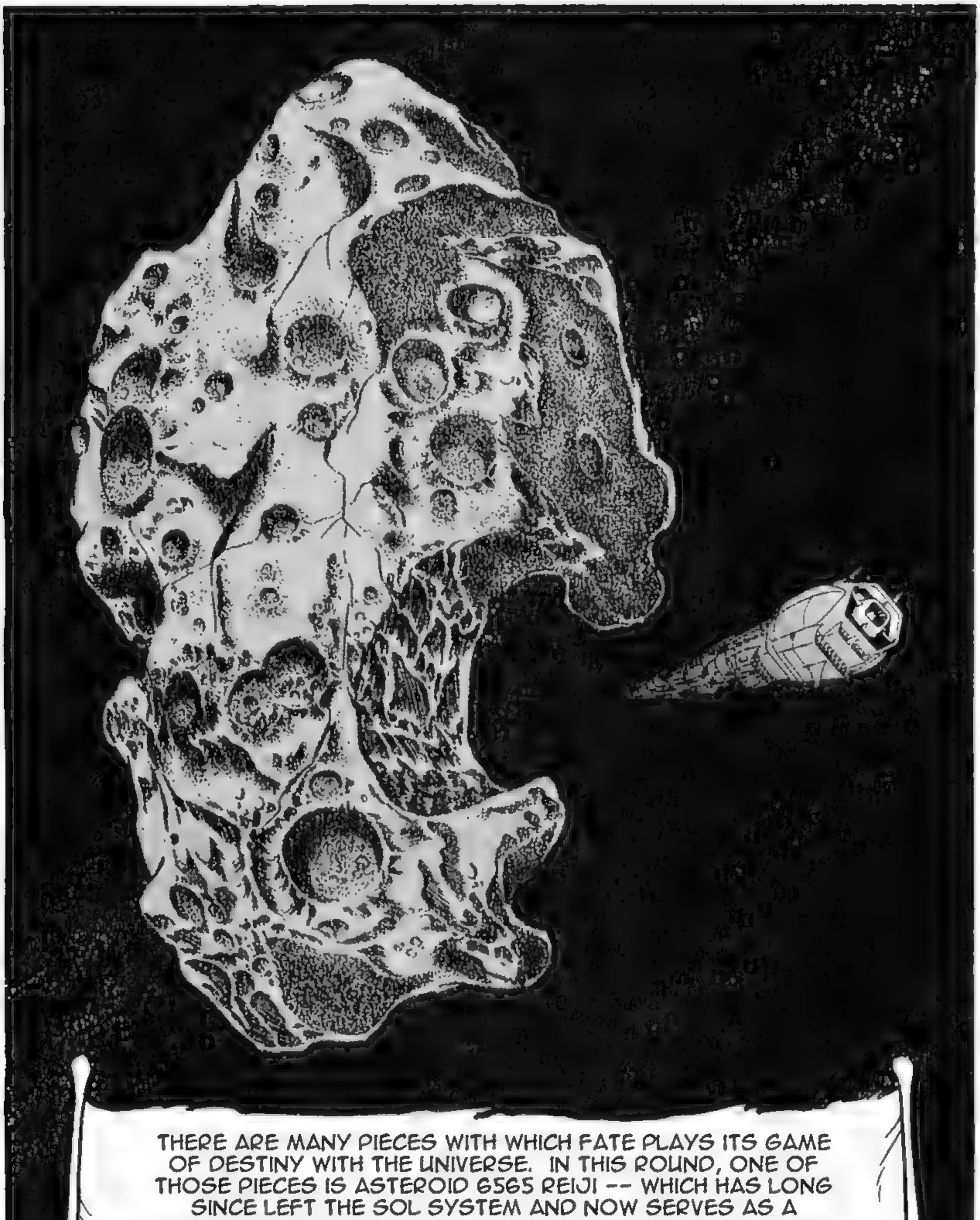
SO NOW THE RHINEGOLD WILL BE BACK IN OUR RING OF TIME ... OUR UNIVERSE. I WONDER ... WILL ANYBODY TRY TO STEAL IT AGAIN? AND IF THEY DO, HOW WILL WOTAN RESPOND?

... TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF THE RHINEGOLD!

PERHAPS ... THAT TOO IS PART OF THE DESTINY OF OUR SONS OF WHICH FREYA SPOKE ...

NEXT STOP, ASTEROID 6565 REIJI!!

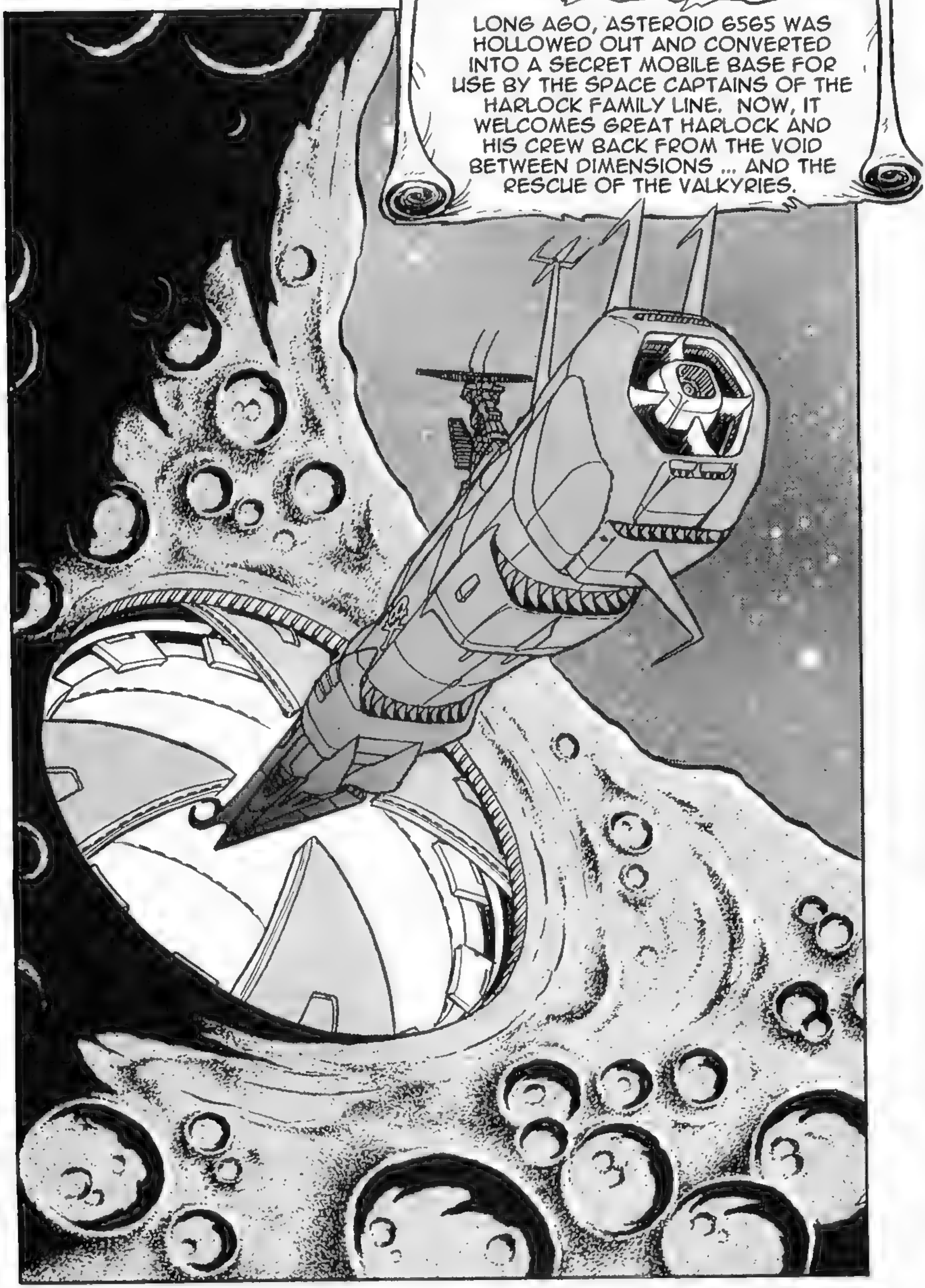
THERE'S THE WARP TERMINUS SIGNAL!



THERE ARE MANY PIECES WITH WHICH FATE PLAYS ITS GAME OF DESTINY WITH THE UNIVERSE. IN THIS ROUND, ONE OF THOSE PIECES IS ASTEROID 6565 REIJI -- WHICH HAS LONG SINCE LEFT THE SOL SYSTEM AND NOW SERVES AS A SECRET BASE OF SUPPORT FOR GREAT HARLOCK AND HIS ALLIES. OVER THE YEARS IT HAS BEEN FITTED BY THE ANCESTORS OF BOTH FAMILIES WITH FULL REST, REPAIR, AND RECREATIONAL FACILTIES. IT IS TO HERE THAT THE DEATH SHADOW NOW APPROACHES -- HAVING DONE THE IMPOSSIBLE IN RESCUING A LONG LOST PLANET FROM THE VOID BETWEEN THE RINGS OF TIME.

Siegfried

Ring 39 : The Second *Death Shadow*


LONG AGO, ASTEROID 6565 WAS HOLLOWED OUT AND CONVERTED INTO A SECRET MOBILE BASE FOR USE BY THE SPACE CAPTAINS OF THE HARLOCK FAMILY LINE. NOW, IT WELCOMES GREAT HARLOCK AND HIS CREW BACK FROM THE VOID BETWEEN DIMENSIONS ... AND THE RESCUE OF THE VALKYRIES.

IT IS SAID THAT ALL OF THE SECRET PIRATE BASES OF THE HARLOCK FAMILY LINE HAD DOCKS AND REPAIR YARDS CAPABLE OF BUILDING NEW SHIPS AS NEEDED FOR EACH NEW HEIR TO THE FAMILY LEGACY. WHILE THIS IS NOT TRUE OF ALL OF THEM, IT IS TRUE IN THE CASE OF THE FORMER ASTEROID 6565 REIJI. IN FACT, ONLY ONE OTHER OF THE HARLOCK CLAN'S MOBILE ASTEROID BASES HAD BETTER FACILITIES THAN THIS ONE -- BUT IT DOES NOT ENTER INTO THIS TALE, AND ITS STORY IS BEST TOLD ANOTHER TIME.

WELCOME BACK TO REALITY, FOLKS!

WITH ONE CREWMEMBER LESS - FOR MIIME WAS BUSY GUIDING THE PLANET RHINE WITH THE NEWLY REPAIRED COSMIC ORGAN ON ITS SURFACE - THE DEATH SHADOW BEGIN ITS FINAL APPROACH TO ASTEROID 6565 REIJI.

HE SAYS IT USED TO BE AN ASTEROID THAT USED TO CIRCLE THE SOLAR SYSTEM AND WAS DISCOVERED BY ONE OF OUR ANCESTORS.

DAD'S PARTICULARLY PROUD OF THIS ONE.

I REMEMBER DAD TALKING ABOUT WHEN HE BROUGHT MOM HERE FOR THE FIRST TIME. SAID SHE FELL IN LOVE WITH IT AT FIRST SIGHT.

HE AND HIS TEAM SPENT YEARS CONVERTING IT INTO A MOBILE BASE.

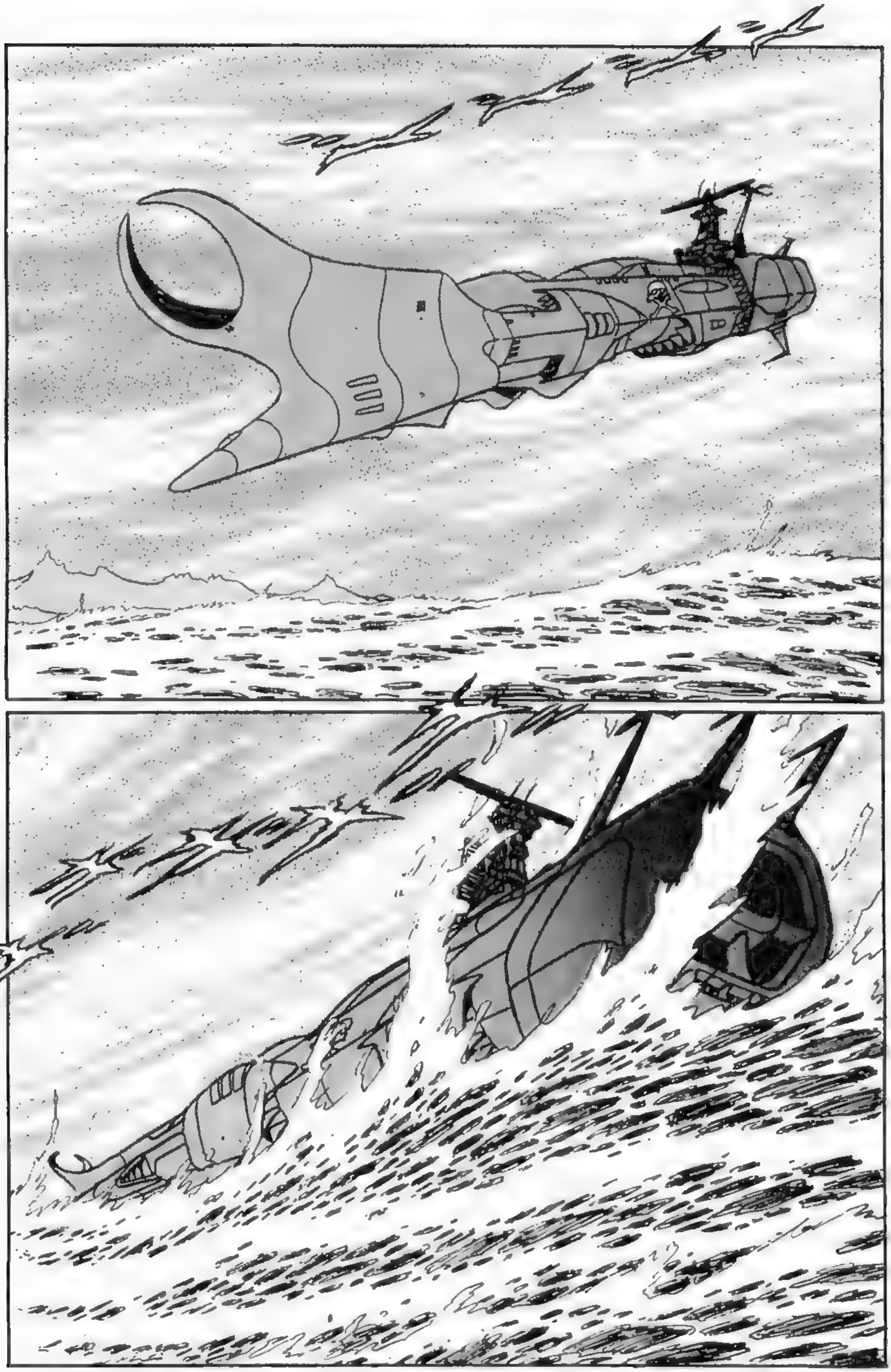
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE TALKED ABOUT HER SINCE .... YOU'RE LUCKY, YOU KNOW? I NEVER KNEW MY MOM. SHE DIED IN LABOR.

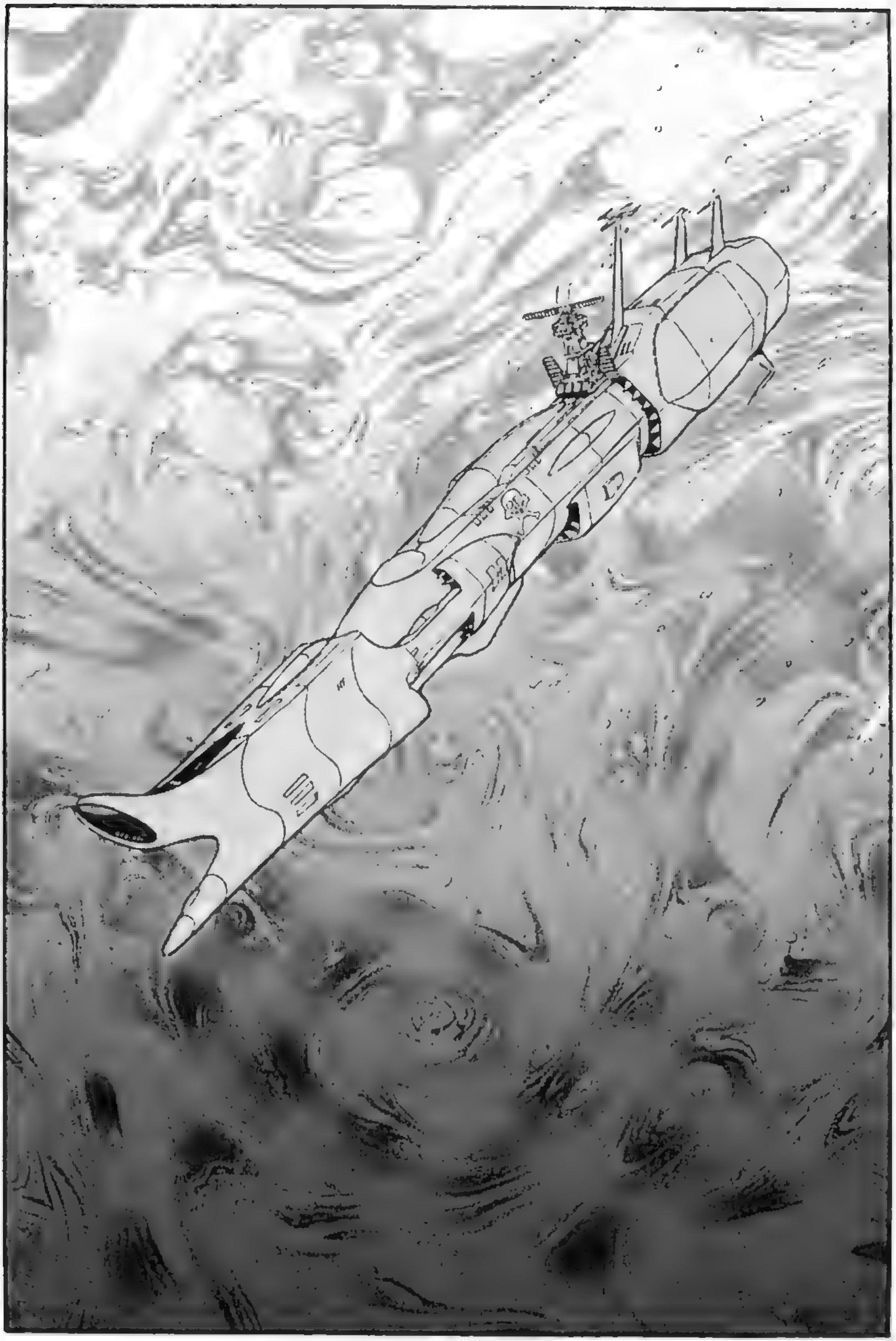
O, O,

HARLOCK ...

OPTICAL ILLUSION. ONE OF DAD'S LITTLE TRICKS HE BUILT INTO IT FOR ITS VISITORS.

THIS IS AMAZING! IT SEEMS SO ROOMY INSIDE!





PROBABLY ... BUT I GET THE IMPRESSION HE IGNORES THINGS BELOW A CERTAIN LEVEL OF PERCEPTION.

HEY ... DO YOU THINK WOTAN KNOWS ABOUT THIS PLACE?

MIIME KNOWS ABOUT THESE BASES BECAUSE OUR FATHER LET HER IN ON THEIR SECRET -- BUT SINCE WOTAN DOESN'T KNOW, HE WON'T BE LOOKING FOR THEM. SEE?

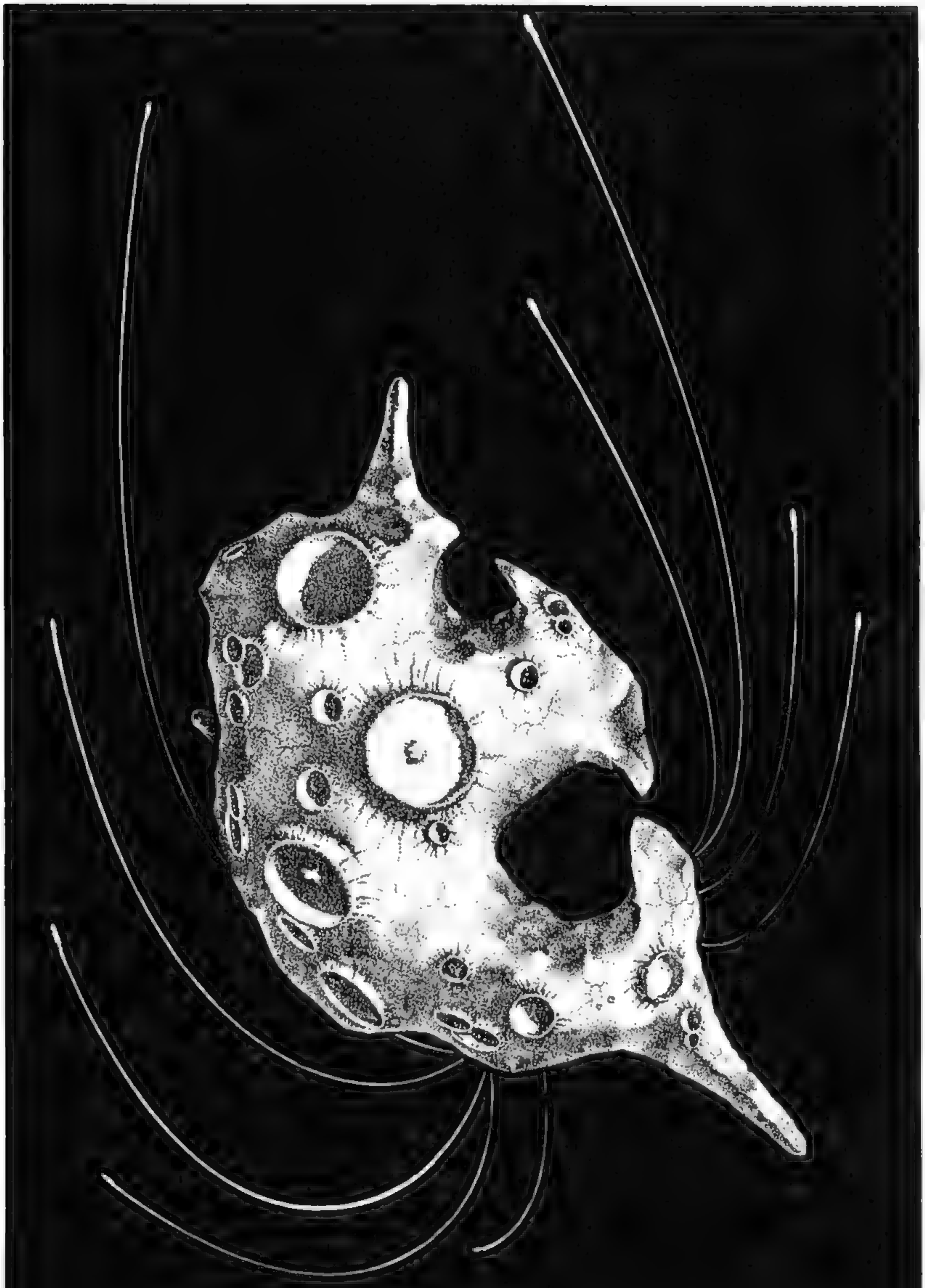
BESIDES, DIDN'T YOUR DAD INSTALL A PERCEPTION FILTER OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT? SO NO ONE WOULD SEE IT UNLESS THEY WERE ACTUALLY LOOKING FOR IT?

A BASE INVISIBLE TO THE GODS! WOW!!!

WHAT?! SOMEONE IS PLAYING THE COSMIC ORGAN ON THE PLANET RHINE?!?!

AND IF SHE IS THERE, AND THE ORGAN IS PLAYING, THAT MEANS THAT GREAT HARLOCK HAS BEEN THERE, AND HELPED HER REPAIR IT! THAT ALSO MEANS -- BRUNHILDE!!! MIIME AND THAT HUMAN HAS FREED THEM!!!!

THERE IS ONLY ONE PERSON IN THE UNIVERSE OTHER THAN YOU, FREYA, WHO COULD DO THAT ...



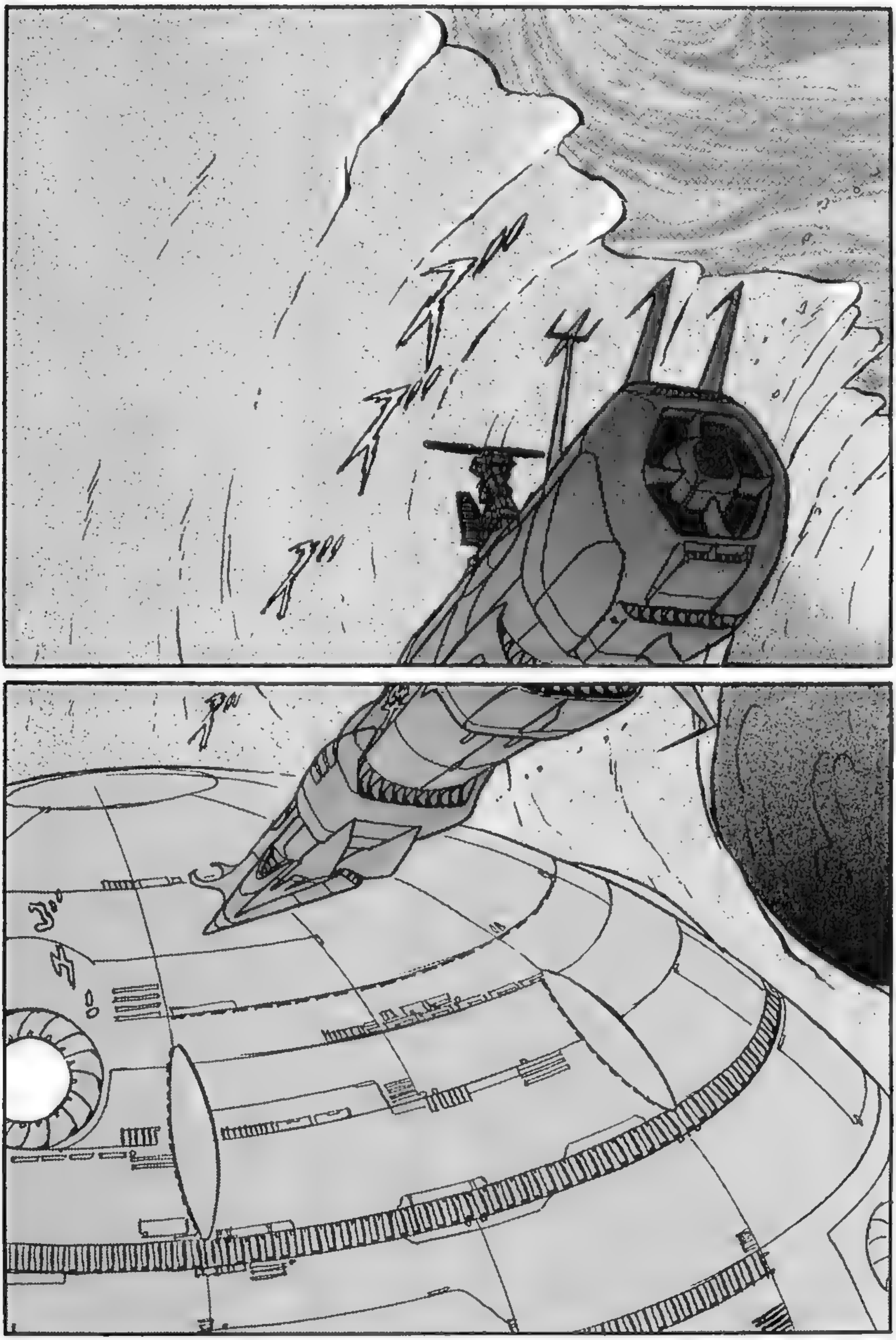
IT WOULD SEEM THAT MIIME AND THAT HUMAN, GREAT HARLOCK, GOT THE BETTER OF YOU, MY LORD.

TH-THE VALKYRIES! H- ... HH- ... HOW DID THE PLANET RHINE END UP THERE?!?

THIS IS BAD, FRICKA .. *BAD!* I PUT RHINE IN ORBIT AROUND THAT BLACK HOLE FOR A REASON! TO HIDE THE RHINEGOLD! AND NOW IT HAS RETURNED TO THAT REALITY, IT CAN BE STOLEN! PERHAPS DARQUEEN HERSELF MIGHT MOVE TO CLAIM IT!

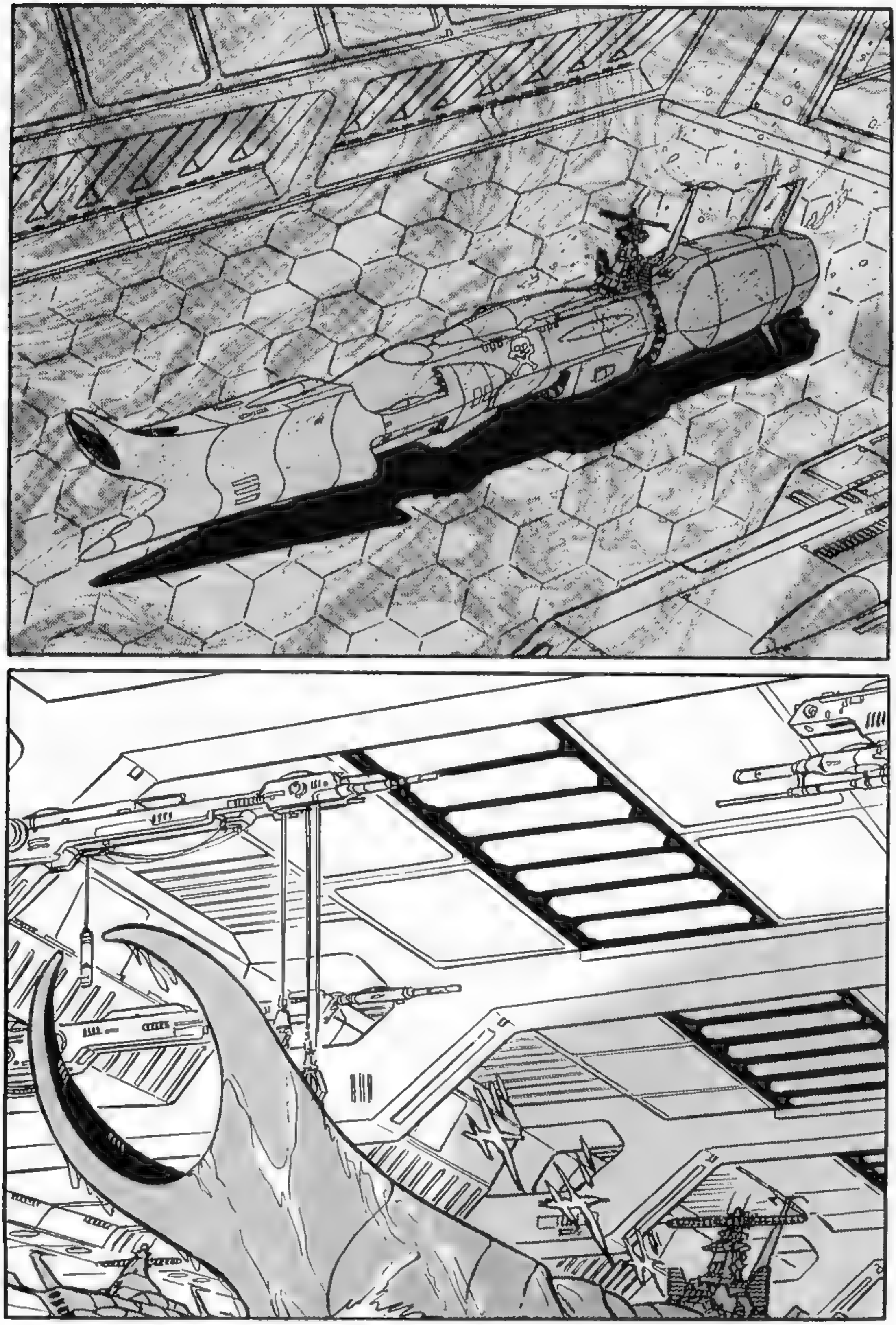
AH, YES ... THAT IS TRUE.

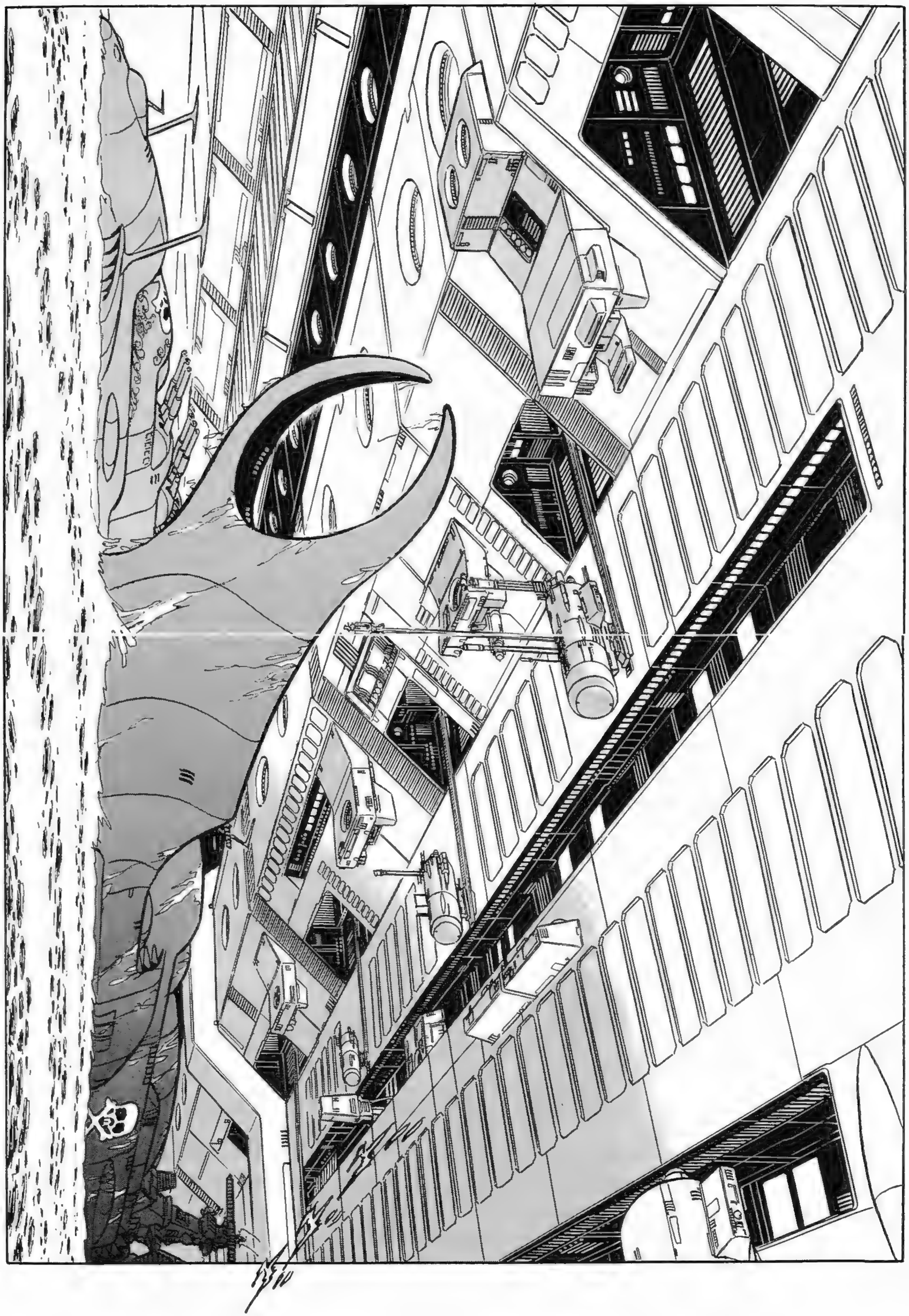
BY REPAIRING AND REACTIVATING THE ORGAN, MIIME HAS EFFECTIVELY CHAINED HERSELF TO THE PLANET RHINE BETTER THAN WE COULD HAVE DONE IT OURSELVES. SHE HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO HELP GUARD THE RHINEGOLD.



FURTHERMORE, IF ANYBODY DOES BREAK IN, THEY'LL BE HARD PUT TO FIND ANYTHING.

AN UNDERWATER DOCK. MAKES SENSE, GIVEN ALL THAT OPEN AREA ABOVE.





HARLOCK! LOOK!!

"MY FIRST SHIP ... THE FIRST ONE I EVER DESIGNED .. THAT I WAS GOING TO BUILD FOR YOU! IT'S ALREADY FINISHED!!!

WELL, WELL! AREN'T OUR FATHERS THE SNEAKY ONES!

DO YOU THINK THE BOYS HAVE DISCOVERED OUR LITTLE SURPRISE YET, TOSHIRO?

I'LL SAY! COME AND LOOK AT 'EM ON THE MONITOR. MY BOY'S SO FLABBERGASTED HE'S ABOUT TO WET HIS PANTS.

THEY ARE FLEEING THE PLANET RHINE AS FAST AS THEY CAN, MY LORD.

IT WAS THE PERFECT PRISON ... YET BRUNHILDE AND HER EIGHT SISTERS ARE NOW FREE!!

MIIME ... WHAT HAVE YOU DONE? WHY DOES YOUR SISTER CONTINUE TO REBEL AGAINST ME, FREYA?!

SO WHAT?!

IF I MAY SPEAK FREELY MY LORD ... SHE HAS NEVER FORGOTTEN WHAT YOU DID TO OUR PEOPLE.

THEY WERE REBELS, AND THEY DESERVED TO BE PUNISHED!

I AM THE LORD OF VALHALLA! I DO NOT HAVE TO ANSWER TO THE NIBELUNGEN FOR MY ACTIONS!!!

FORGIVE ME, MY LORD ....

IT SEEMS WE HAVE LOST ALL TRACE OF THE DEATH SHADOW. IT IS AS IF IT JUST VANISHED ....

YES, MY LORD. THEIR SIGNALS MATCH THE ONES LEFT AT THE STORAGE DEPOT THERE WHEN YOU MOVED RHINE TO THE VOID.

NEVER MIND. THE VALKYRIES ARE USING THE SHIPS WE LEFT BEHIND ON RHINE, EH?

TRACK THEM. THEY WILL LEAD US TO GREAT HARLOCK ... AND WHEN THEY DO ... I SHALL DESTROY THEM ALL!!!

ONCE THE PROUDEST WARRIORS OF THE UNIVERSE, THE VALKYRIES ARE NOW DESPERATE FUGITIVES -- FLEEING THE WRATH OF THEIR FATHER WOTAN. MIIME HAS TOLD THEM WHERE TO GO, WHERE A SAFE HAVEN MIGHT EXIST -- BUT ITS SAFETY DEPENDS ON A FRAGILE RUSE, A TRICK OF THE SENSES. EVEN SO, IT IS ONE SO SIMPLE THAT A GOD JUST MIGHT OVERLOOK IT.

Siegfried

Ring 40 : *Arcadia* of My Youth

YES, MY LORD. HE WAS USING A PERCEPTION FILTER. WE DID NOT EXPECT HIM TO HAVE THIS TECHNOLOGY.

YOU SAY YOU'VE FOUND THE PLACE WHERE GREAT HARLOCK IS HIDING? -

NOT ONLY THAT, MY LORD, BUT THERE IS A POWERFUL PSIONIC BARRIER AS WELL. I HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO PENETRATE IT.

THEY CAN DO SUCH A THING?

IT IS STRONG ENOUGH TO REPEL EVEN ME. MIIME TAUGHT THEM WELL.

THIS IS WHAT WE FOUND AT THE END OF THE PORTAL, MY LORD, AND HIDDEN BEHIND THE PERCEPTION FILTER. A SEEMINGLY HARMLESS ASTEROID THAT IS MORE THAN ITS APPEARANCE WOULD LET ON.

HOW INGENIOUS! A PLOY WORTHY OF ME! I HAVE UNDERESTIMATED THIS MORTAL.

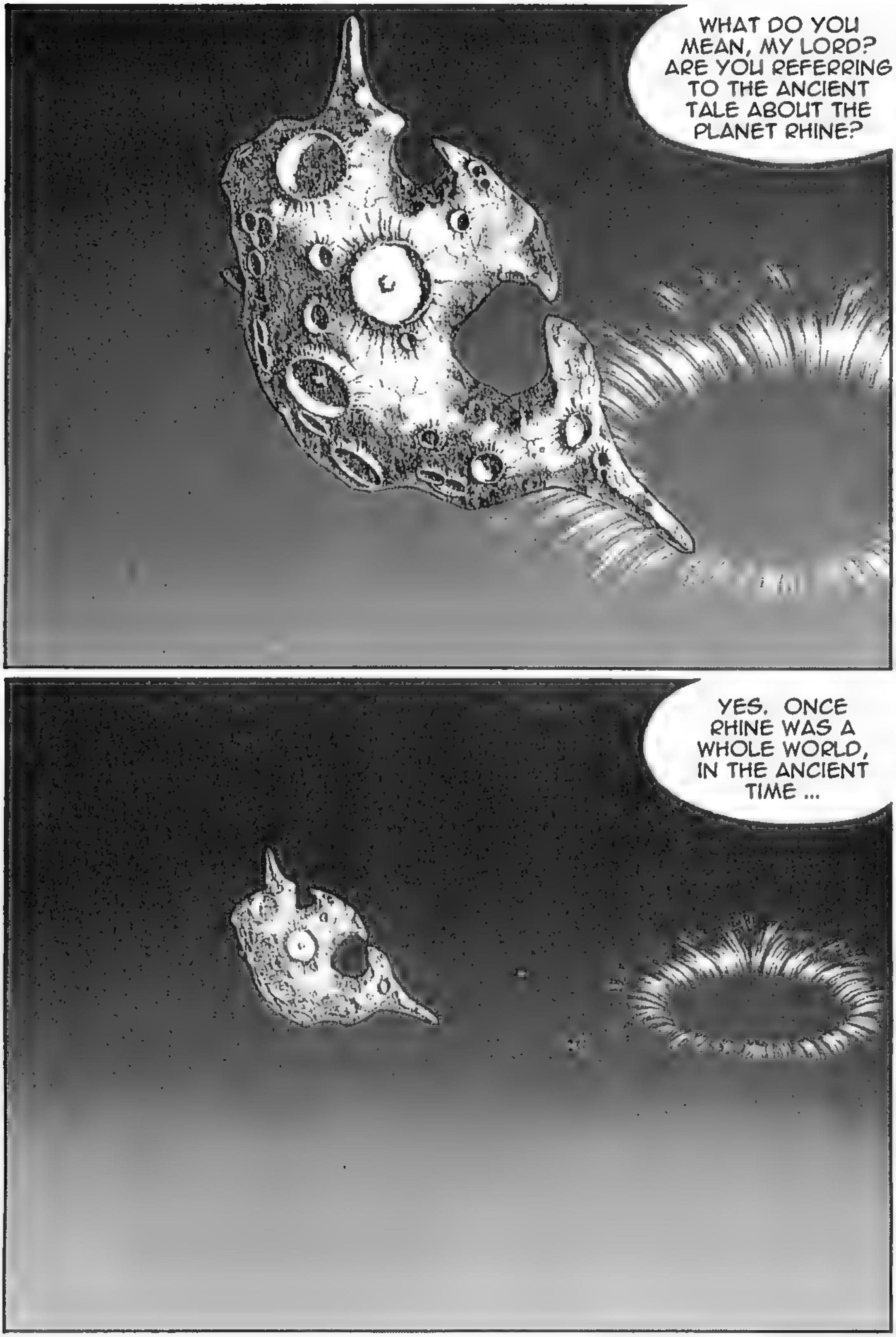
IT ONCE BELONGED TO THE SOL SYSTEM, WHICH IS FROM WHERE THE HUMANS CAME. IT HAS APPARENTLY BEEN REFITTED FOR DEEP SPACE TRAVEL AND MOVED TO THIS LOCATION.

WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT THIS ROCK?

STRANGE ... IT RESEMBLES THE PLANET RHINE ... I WONDER ... COULD IT TOO BE ANOTHER LOST PART OF THAT WORLD?

ENOUGH. THANK YOU, FREYA.

IN THEIR RECORDS, IT IS KNOWN AS ASTEROID 6565 REIJI. IT IS HOLLOW, WITH AN APPROXIMATE DIAMETER OF 50 KM--


WHAT DO YOU MEAN, MY LORD? ARE YOU REFERRING TO THE ANCIENT TALE ABOUT THE PLANET RHINE?
YES. ONCE RHINE WAS A WHOLE WORLD, IN THE ANCIENT TIME ...

BUT IN THE FIRST WAR, WHEN I AND MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS OVERCAME THE DARKNESS, PLANET RHINE WAS DESTROYED. ONLY ITS HEART REMAINED.

ALL THE OTHER PIECES WERE LOST. COULD THIS BE ONE OF THEM?

AH, BRUNHILDE! WHY HAVE YOU AND YOUR SISTERS TURNED AGAINST ME?

I STILL HAVE ALBERICH, OF COURSE, BUT HE IS NOT YOU ....

YOU WERE MY BEST HOPE AT ALTERING THE DESTINY OF THAT MAN HARLOCK ...

... AND MY ATTEMPT TO BEND THAT RING OF TIME ONLY MADE MATTERS WORSE ....

I KNOW, FRICKA!!

DO NOT FORGET WHAT HE DID WITH THE RHINEGOLD THE LAST TIME HE HAD IT, WOTAN.

THE PLANET RHINE HAS RETURNED ... AND A COSMIC ORGAN EXISTS THERE WHERE ONE WAS NOT BEFORE ....

AND ALREADY, THE PATTERN FOR THAT EVENT HAS BEGUN TO WEAVE ITSELF IN THIS NEW RING OF TIME.

AND FREE THE VALKYRIES. THE PATTERN IS ALL TOO CLEAR. ***DAMN THE NORNS!*** MEDDLING BUSYBODIES ...

MIIME MUST HAVE USED THAT ORGAN TO SHATTER THE CRYSTAL CASKET ...

VALHALLA ... IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A PARADISE, REMEMBER? THE HOLY OF HOLIES AT THE CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE, GUIDING AND STABILIZING THE RINGS OF TIME ... YET LOOK AT IT NOW ....

AND THAT MAN, HARLOCK! I AM BEHOLDEN TO A SCORNFUL MORTAL FOR SAVING VALHALLA! I WILL NOT FORGIVE HIM, AND BOTH HE AND HIS FRIENDS MUST BE PUNISHED FOR HIS ARROGANCE!!!

SO *THAT'S* WHY YOU AND DAD WANTED COPIES OF MY SIMS! THANK YOU, SIR! YOU'VE GIVEN ME A HEAD START!

THIS IS MY LATEST ONE ON THE *ARCADIA*. THIS IS WHAT THE BRIDGE WILL LOOK LIKE. IT'S MODELED IN PART AFTER YOUR OWN.

I'M STILL TWEAKING THE LAYOUT HERE AND THERE -- PLUS THERE'S THE NEW ARMOR AND AN ALL-NEW ENGINE DESIGN I'VE GOT TO WORK OUT.

I'M KINDA GLAD I DIDN'T GIVE YOU A COPY OF THIS 3D SIM THAT WAS READY TO FEED INTO THE COMPUTERS OF DAD'S AUTOMATED SHIPYARDS.

WHY SUCH A BIG SHIP, YOUNG MAN? A SMALL YET EFFECTIVE ONE IS BOTH PRACTICAL AND ECONOMICAL. WHY MAKE IT SO LARGE?

THIS ONE'S GONNA BE TWICE AS BIG AS EITHER ONE OF THE DEATH SHADOWS - YOURS OR MINE!!

AHH, YES! TWO OF YOUR NEW ENGINES, AS WITH YOUR PROTOTYPE, BUT LARGER AND MORE POWERFUL.

WATCH'A NEED WITH ALL THAT POWER, BOY?!

WE'LL NEED IT FOR THE TRIPLE PULSAR CANNON TURRETS, AND THE SPACE BUSTER, AND WHENEVER WE HAVE TO USE THE BOW TRENCHER RAM!

1.9 TIMES LARGER? LET'S SEE ... THAT WOULD MEAN IT WOULD BE ABOUT 490 TO 500 METERS IN LENGTH ...

... WITH A BEAM OF ABOUT 49 METERS AND A DISPLACEMENT OF 215,000 GROSS METRIC TONS. IS THAT ABOUT RIGHT, TOCHIRO?

AND THAT'S JUST THE FIRST *ARCADIA*! EACH ONE'S GOING TO BE BIGGER AND BIGGER, AS I LEARN MORE AND MORE! I'LL THEN BUILD A SECOND, AND A THIRD, AND A FOURTH, AND A--

APPROXIMATELY 1.9 TIMES LARGER THAN DAD'S DEATH SHADOW.

HOW BIG IS THIS *ARCADIA* SUPPOSED TO BE AGAIN?

CLOSE ENOUGH! BUT YOUR LARGEST SPACEDOCK LIMITS ME TO A MAXIMUM OF 1 KILOMETER IN LENGTH AND ABOUT 2,900,000 GMT.

THAT'S TOO BIG TO BE PRACTICAL, YOUNG MAN.

I KNOW! BUT A MAN'S GOTTA DREAM, DON'T HE?

YOU KNOW, BOY, SOMETIMES YOUR THICKHEADENESS AMAZES ME. AM I GOING TO HAVE TO SLAP YOU BEFORE YOU SEE THAT'S TOO BIG?!

THINK OF THE STRESS ON SUCH A BIG HULL! THE TORQUE DURING HIGH-SPEED MANEUVERS! NOT TO MENTION BEING ONE FUCKING BIG TARGET!! JEEZ!!!

... I THOUGHT OF THAT, AND CAME UP WITH SOMETHING THEY USED TO DREAM ABOUT IN THE OLD DAYS -- AN "INERTAL DAMPENING FIELD" TO ABSORB SHOCK AND TORQUE TO THE HULL.

YOU KNOW, DAD, I WISH YOU WOULDN'T CALL ME "BOY." AND I DON'T THINK GREAT HARLOCK LIKES YOU CUSSIN' IN FRONT OF HIM, OR US. BESIDES ...

... YET EVEN IF YOU ONLY ACHIEVE PART OF IT, YOU WILL HAVE GONE FARTHER THAN MOST MEN IN THEIR LIVES. I COMMEND YOU FOR SUCH A VISION!

I MUST ADMIT, TOCHIRO OYAMA, THIS IS QUITE AN AMBITIOUS DREAM OF YOURS. THE BEST DREAMS ARE OFTEN THAT WAY ...

MAY YOUR *ARCADIA* COME TO LIFE SOMEDAY, TOCHIRO ... AND MAY YOU PROVE A WORTHY CAPTAIN FOR IT, SON.

THANKS, DAD ... AND THANKS FOR BUILDING TOCHIRO'S FIRST SHIP FOR US!

AHH, YES ... THE *ARCADIA*, TOCHIRO ... THE SHIP OF OUR YOUTHS, THE EMBODIMENT OF ALL OUR DREAMS!

I'LL LEARN FROM IT, AND WHAT I LEARN WILL GO INTO THE *ARCADIA*!

IT'S A NEW DESIGN. I CALL IT THE "WAVE GRAVITY ENGINE." A LOT MORE POWERFUL THAT WHAT YOU USE.

THIS DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A WAVE MOTION ENGINE.

SAME AS YOU, DAD -- THE LATEST IN HIGH-TECH COMPUTER CONTROL SYSTEMS -- BUT I'M ALSO GOING TO INSTALL AN MENTAL LINKUP TO A VIRTUAL REALITY INTERFACE, WITH HOLOGRAPHIC PROJECTION.

HOW ARE YOU GOING TO CONTROL THIS MONSTROSITY OF YOURS?

IT'S NOT THE PRIMARY SYSTEM. IT'S A FALLBACK MEASURE -- A "SYSTEM OF LAST RESORT," AS IT WERE.

WELL ...

TO TAP DIRECTLY INTO THE HUMAN MIND? IS THAT WISE, YOUNG MAN?

LET'S SAY ONE OF US WAS HURT TO THE DEATH. WE COULD COPY OUR MINDS INTO THE SHIP'S COMPUTER AND KEEP FIGHTING. A LAST RESORT MEASURE, MIND YOU.

I SEE. I GUESS THAT'S ALL RIGHT. WHAT DO YOU THINK, TOSHIRO? WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A MIND LIVING INSIDE A STARSHIP?

NOT REALLY.

YOU KNOW WHAT?

CHUCKLE

SO AM I. OH, THAT BOY ...!

STILL ... YOU HAVE TO ADMIT, IT'S IMPRESSIVE. FRANKLY, I'M A BIT JEALOUS.

I MEAN, THE SHEER MAGNITUDE OF HIS AMBITIONS! I'LL ADMIT, IT'S ONE HELLUVA A DREAM, BUT THERE'S PARTS OF IT - LIKE THAT MIND LINK STUFF - THAT JUST SETS MY TEETH ON EDGE!

YOU KNOW, PHANTOM? SOMETIMES THAT BOY SCARES ME.

YEAH ... ME TOO.

I WISH THEIR MOTHERS HAD LIVED TO SEE THIS.

AND TO YOUR SON AND MINE!

A TOAST ... TO THE DREAMS OF YOUTH!

CHEERS!!!

CHEERS!!!

IT IS A COMMON THING FOR MEN TO TOAST BEFORE SOME GREAT ENDEAVOR, OR THE START OF A MOMENTOUS JOURNEY. THIS IN A SENSE IS BOTH OF THOSE. GREAT HARLOCK AND DR. OYAMA ARE TOASTING THE GREAT ENDEAVORS OF WHICH THEIR SONS DREAM, AND TO THE GREAT JOURNEY UPON WHICH THEIR LIVES WILL LEAD THEM. COULD THEY DO ANY LESS?

ALL RIGHT, HAUL 'EM TO THEIR QUARTERS AND LET 'EM SLEEP IT OFF.

GOOD GOD ... THEY'RE REALLY BLASTED -- THE BOTH OF 'EM! I SWEAR ....

HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD THAT BOY HE CAN'T HANDLE HIS LIQUOR?!?!

WHAT?! THEY GOT DRUNK?!!

AND WHY NOT? I WROTE THEIR PROGRAMS MYSELF!

THOSE LABOR ANDROIDS AND THAT AUTOMATED SHIPYARD OF YOURS DID A DAMN FINE JOB.

OH? I THOUGHT IT'S NAME WAS SUPPOSED TO BE THE *ARCADIA*.

WE DID GIVE THEM REASON TO CELEBRATE YOU KNOW. THE SECOND *DEATH SHADOW* OUT THERE.

EARTH USED TO BE LIKE THAT, YOU KNOW ... BEFORE THE AGENTS OF THE METANOIDS CAME ...

... OR MAYBE IT'S JUST BEING HERE WITH YOU, OLD FRIEND. EITHER WAY, I'M SATISIFIED.

I LOVE THIS PLACE. I FEEL SO SECURE HERE. MAYBE IT'S THE OLD TALE ABOUT MY ANCESTORS ...

THEY'LL BE FINE. LET THEM SLEEP. I'M SURE THE AUTOMATED DEFENSES CAN DEAL WITH OUT UNINVITED GUESTS.

WHAT?! THE BOYS!!

ATTENTION!! ATTENTION!! UNKNOWN VESSELS APPROACHING WITH HOSTILE INTENT!!!

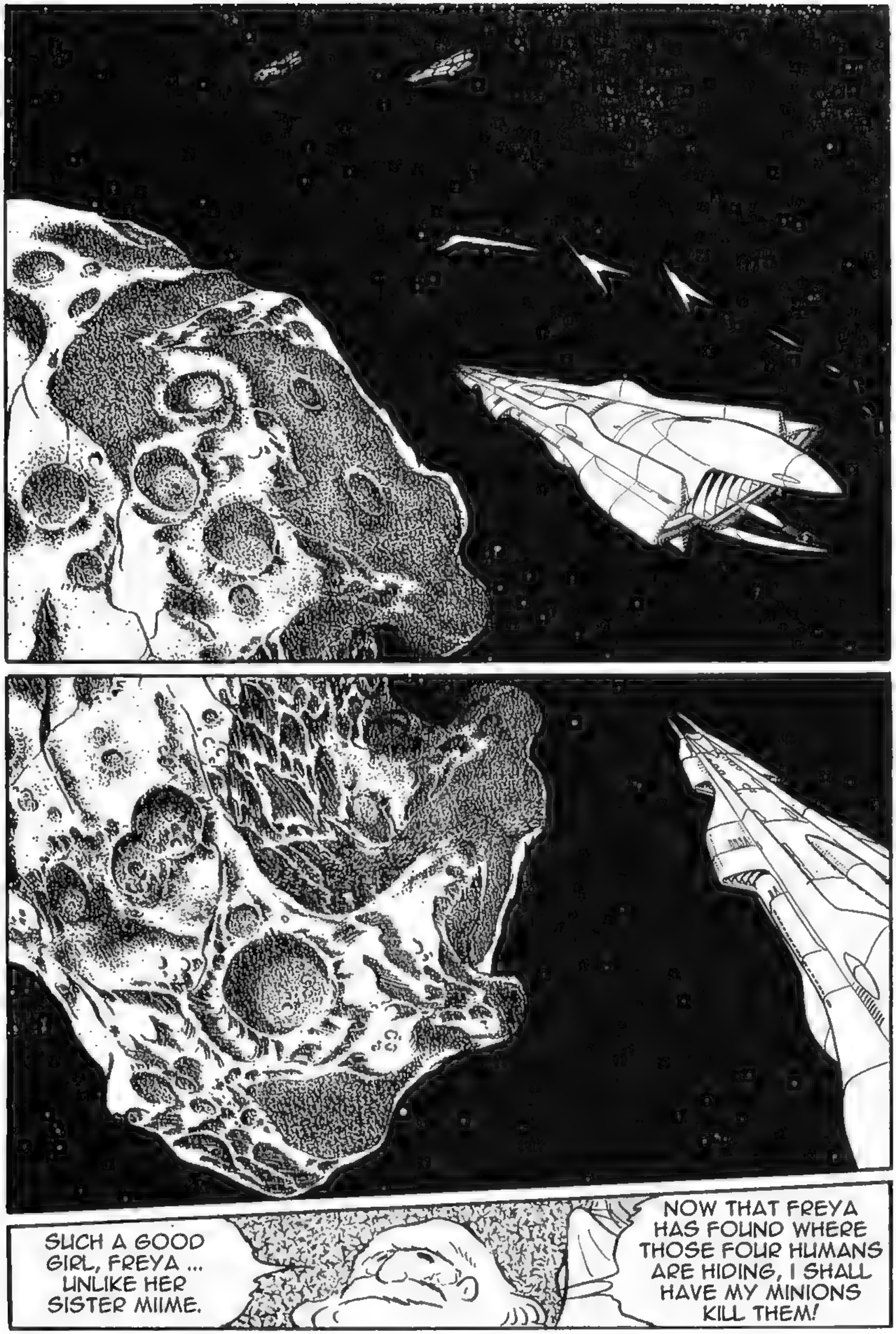
ONE DAY, THERE SHALL BE A RECKONING ... AND MY HAND WILL PLAY A PART IN IT!

AND TURNED HUMANITY INTO PIGS FEEDING AT THEIR MASTERS' TROUGH.

IT IS SAID THAT NO MORTAL CAN HIDE FROM THE GODS. THUS WOTAN HAS LEARNED OF THE HIDING PLACE OF GREAT HARLOCK, AND ONCE AGAIN SENT OUT HIS AGENTS TO DESTROY HIM, HIS FRIEND DR. OYAMA, AND HIS TWO SONS. THE DEATHS OF THE BOYS HE DESIRES MOST OF ALL, FOR IT IS DESTINED THAT THEY WILL BRING ABOUT THE DOOM OF VALHALLA IN THE NOT-TOO-DISTANT FUTURE. YET WOTAN HAS ALREADY GLIMPSED THE TRUTH THAT BRUNHILDE TRIED TO WARN HIM OF EARLIER -- THAT GREAT HARLOCK IS A FORMIDABLE FOE ON THIS MORTAL PLANE. HIS SECOND LESSON IN THIS FACT IS COMING SOON ....

Siegfried

Ring 41 ; September 9, 2199


SUCH A GOOD GIRL, FREYA ... UNLIKE HER SISTER MIIME.
NOW THAT FREYA HAS FOUND WHERE THOSE FOUR HUMANS ARE HIDING, I SHALL HAVE MY MINIONS KILL THEM!

2000 AD

WHAT?!

WE'VE LOST THE SIGNAL FROM THE SCOUT SHIP, MY LORD. IT SEEMS IT MAY HAVE BEEN DESTROYED.

FOR NOW, NOTHING. WE WILL WAIT AND SEE HOW THINGS DEVELOP.

THAT ASTEROID SEEMS TO HAVE SOME KIND OF DEFENSE SYSTEM. WHAT SHALL WE DO ABOUT IT, LORD WOTAN?

I WILL FIND A WAY ... AND WHEN I DO, I SHALL CRUSH THEM ALL!!

THEY MAY HAVE KNOWLEDGE BEYOND THEIR KEN, BUT MONKEYS ARE STILL NOTHING BUT MONKEYS. EVEN GREAT HARLOCK ...

I THINK WE'RE GONNA HEAR FROM WOTAN'S FLUNKIES REAL SOON.

THAT SHIP WAS SENDING SOME SORT OF MESSAGE BACK INTO THE VOID.

ANY CODE CAN BE BROKEN, GIVEN ENOUGH TIME. DOES WOTAN TAKE US FOR UTTER FOOLS?

IF ONLY I COULD BREAK THEIR CODE!

THAT'S WHERE HE'S SCREWED UP, THIS "GOD." OUR DEFENSES ARE AS GOOD AS ANYTHING THEY'VE GOT.

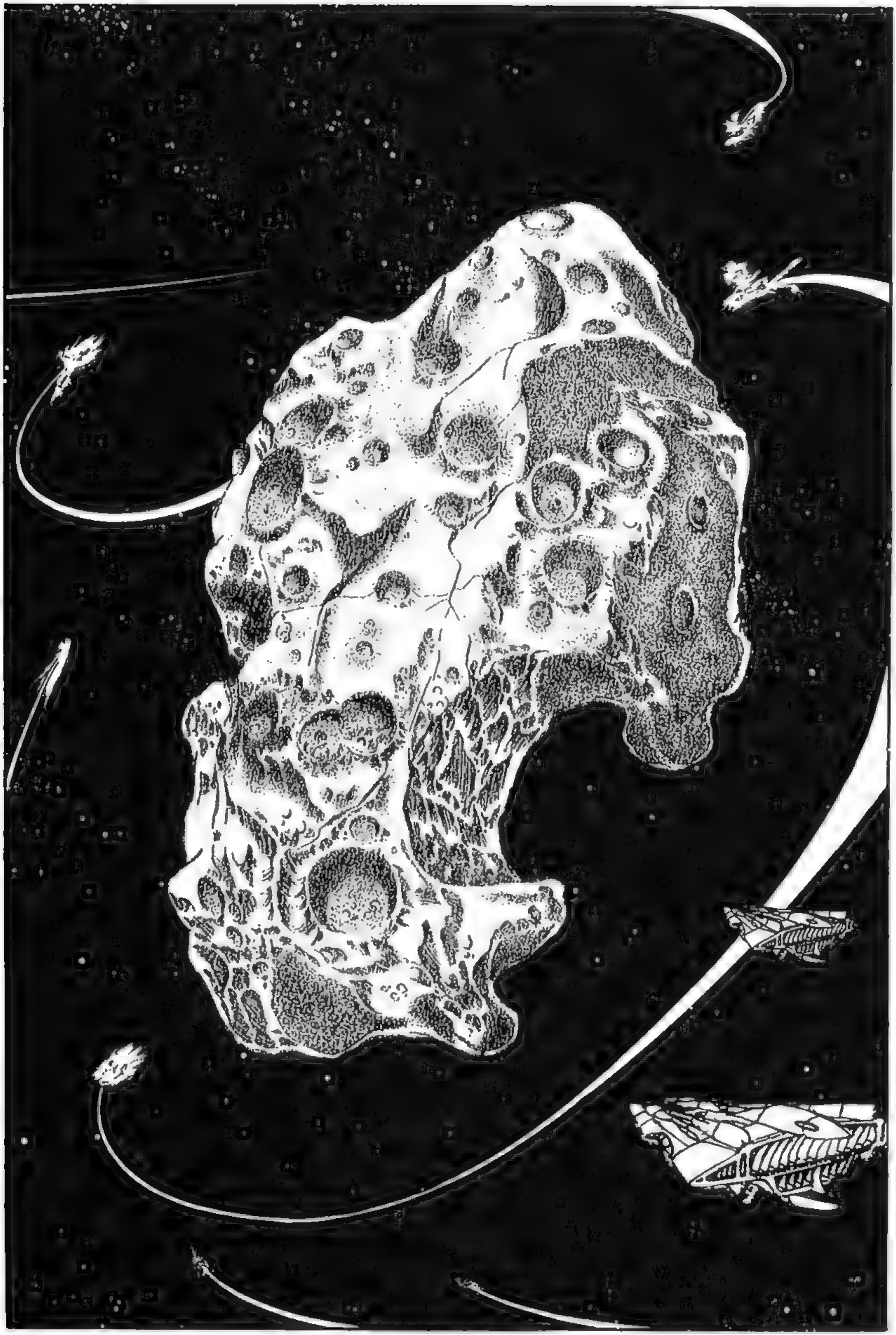
GIVEN THE WAY HE'S BEEN TO US SO FAR, I'D SAY, "YES."

FREYA? WHY HER!?

WHAT SCARES ME THE MOST IS THAT MAYBE THAT OLD BUGGER WILL MAKE FREYA COMMAND HIS ATTACK FORCE.

YOU FORGET, TOSHIRO -- SHE'S NOT A WARRIOR. SHE SAID SO HERSELF.

WELL, SHE'S ALREADY BEEN ON OUR SHIP ONCE, AND SHE'S AS GOOD AT THAT ORGAN THINGEY AS MIIME. IF SHE WAS TO RECAPTURE RHINE, SHE COULD TAKE IT BACK TO THE VOID.



ALSO, SHE'D BE FIGHTING HER OWN SISTER -- AND FOR THE SAKE OF OUR SONS' FUTURE, BOTH OF THEM MUST LIVE.

WHICH ISN'T MUCH. GOOD! MAYBE THIS WILL KEEP THEM HAPPY FOR A WHILE!!

MY LORD, THE METANOIDS HAVE BEGUN THEIR ATTACK ON GREAT HARLOCK'S BASE. THEY ARE ATTACKING FOR ALL THEY ARE WORTH.

NEW SHIPS ARE JOINING THE FRAY.

WHAT?!

MY LORD! IT IS THE VALKYRIES! THE METANOIDS ARE BEING SLAUGHTERED!!!

CORRECTION -- THAT'S NO FIGHT. THE NEW SHIPS ARE SLAUGHTERING THEM LEFT AND RIGHT. POOR SAPS.

WELL, I'LL BE A MONKEY'S UNCLE! ANOTHER FLEET OF SHIPS HAS JUMPED IN AND IS MIXING IT UP WITH WOTAN'S!

IT'S THE VALKYRIES!

LET'S SEE ... ONE, TWO, THREE ... NINE-- NINE?!

I NEVER THOUGHT I'D EVER SAY THIS, HARLOCK, BUT BOY AM I GLAD AS HELL TO SEE THEM!!

BRUNHILDE!!!

HOW IN THE HELL DID THEY GET THEIR SHIPS BACK?!?

NO ...!

HOW? HOW DID THEY GET THEIR SHIPS BACK?

THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO BE HERE!!!

OH, MY GIRL ... !!

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!

... SHE LETS NOTHING STAND IN HER WAY? SHE IS A CONSUMMANTE PROFESSIONAL. IF THERE WERE A WAY, SHE WOULD HAVE FOUND IT.

WE DO NOT KNOW, MY LORD WOTAN. MAY I POINT OUT, THAT WHEN BRUNHILDE CHOOSES HER FIGHT ...

I LEFT THEM A NOTE TELLING THEM TO GO TAKE A SWIM ONCE THEY GOT OVER THE DRY HEAVES. PARTLY FOR THEIR OWN GOOD ...

THINK THE BOYS KNOW ABOUT THE FIGHT OUTSIDE YET?

... AND PARTLY TO KEEP THEM OUT OF OUR HAIR FOR A WHILE. SEEMS NOW A WISE CHOICE.

YEAH ... YOU'RE RIGHT. KIDS NEED SOME TIME TO THEMSELVES FOR A WHILE ... JUST LIKE ADULTS.

DAD ALWAYS SAID A SWIM IS GOOD FOR YOUR TROUBLES. THAT'S ONE OF THE REASONS THAT THIS MINI-SEA WAS INSTALLED.

GOD, BUT THIS FEELS SO GOOD! I DIDN'T THINK I WAS EVER GOING TO STOP RETCHING.

THEY SAY THAT ALL LIFE ON EARTH CAME OUT OF THE WATER ... JUST LIKE IT DID ON MANY OTHER WORLDS. MAYBE THAT'S WHERE THE PHRASE "MOTHER OCEAN" CAME FROM.

YES ... A SMALL REPLICA OF THE SEA AS IT USED TO BE ON EARTH, BEFORE ALL THE WARS OVER THE YEARS RUINED IT. SO BLUE!

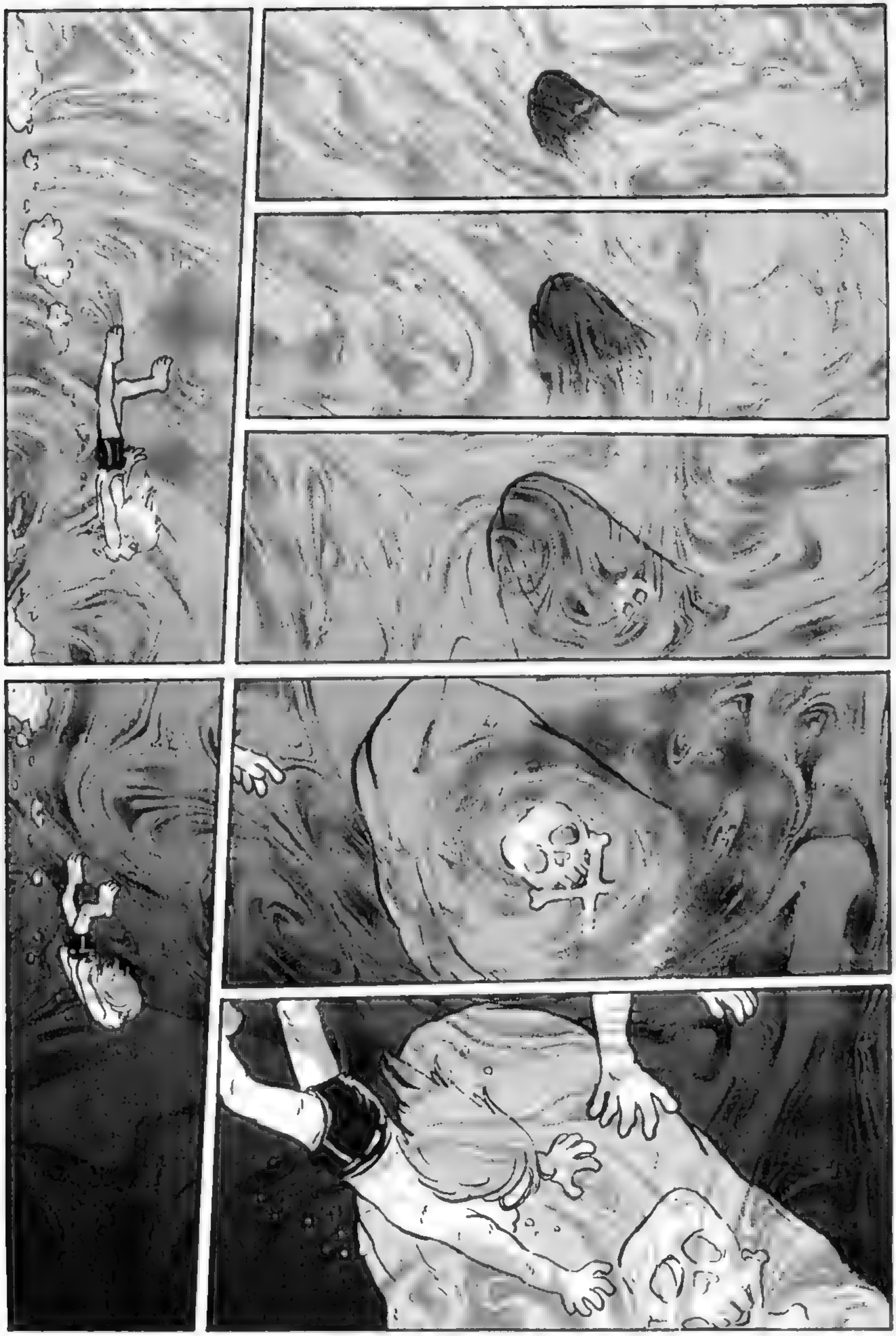
RACE YOU TO THE BOTTOM, TOCHIRO!

HEY! IF I REMEMBER RIGHT, THE MARKER LEFT BY MY ANCESTOR WHO DISCOVERED THIS ASTEROID IS AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS SEA!

YOU'RE ON!!!

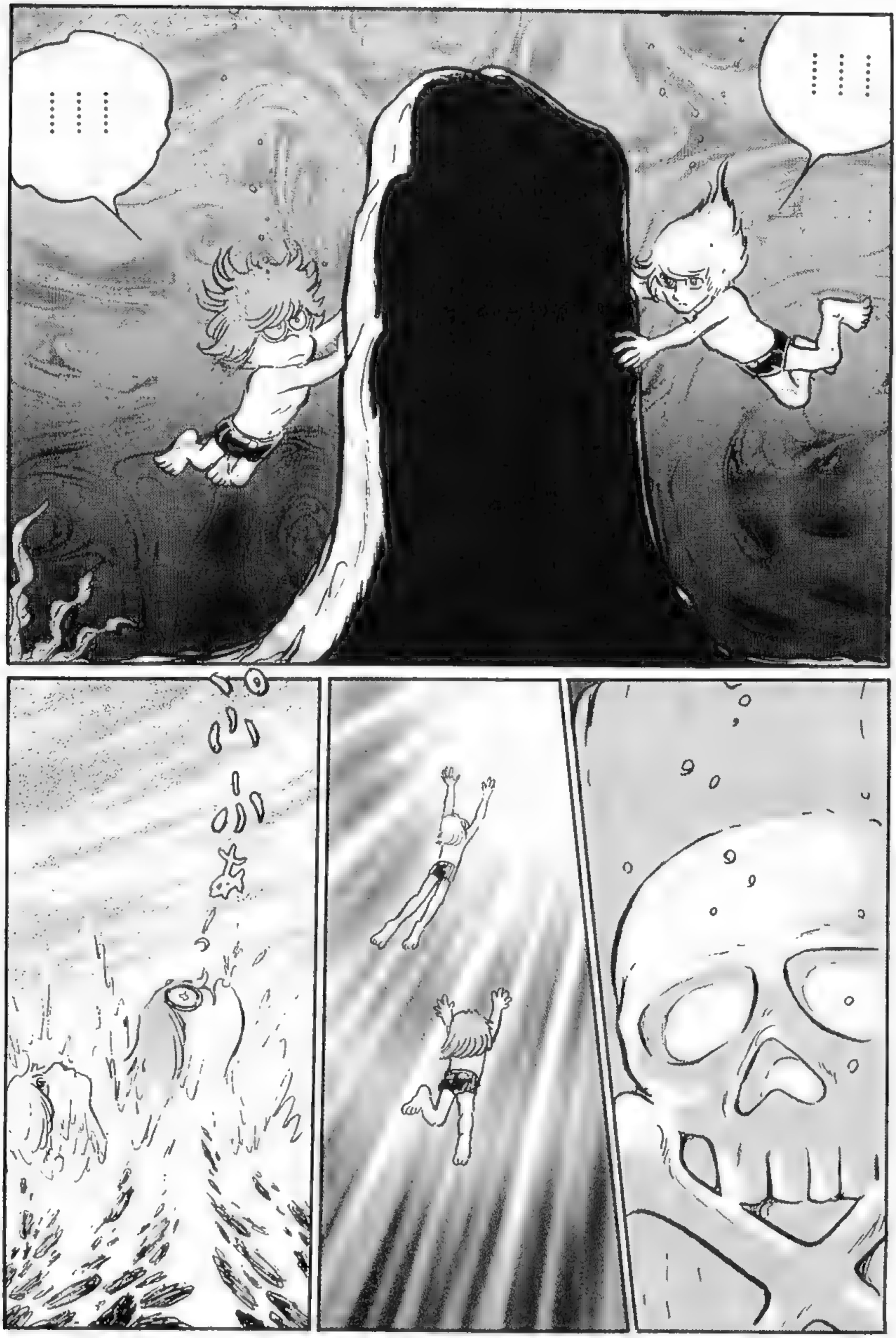
SO THIS IS WHAT UNPOLLUTED WATER LOOKS LIKE! IT'S SO BEAUTIFUL!

MAN, BUT THE OCEAN ON EARTH WAS NEVER THIS CLEAR!



SEPTEMBER 9, 2199
WE WHO ARE THE DESCENDANTS OF HE WHO DISCOVERED THIS ASTEROID, LEAVE THIS MARKER AS TESTIMONY TO OUR PASSAGE, AND THE WORDS THAT HAVE GUIDED EACH GENERATION OF OUR FAMILY. HIS DREAM HAS STOOD THE TEST OF TIME. – KEI & REI

"TIME WILL NOT BETRAY ONE'S DREAMS." – LEIJI MATSUMOTO



TIME WILL NEVER BETRAY ONE'S DREAMS ...

HIS DREAM STOOD THE TEST OF TIME ...

HARLOCK ... DO YOU THINK WE'LL EVER HAVE A MARKER STONE LIKE THAT?

YES! AND WE'LL PUT THAT SAME QUOTE ON IT -- THE ONE THAT GUIDES EACH GENERATION OF BOTH OUR FAMILIES!

AND THE SYMBOL OF THAT DREAM IS THE SKULL AND CROSSBONES!! IT INSPIRES US, AS IT DID OUR FATHERS, AND THEIRS BEFORE THEM!!

FIGHTING FOR A FREEDOM WITHOUT LIMITS! STRUGGLING AGAINST ALL ODDS, UNTIL NOTHING IS LEFT BUT OUR BONES!!!

EMERALDAS!!!

LOOK! IT'S THE THREE-NINE! IT'S BACK! BUT-- BUT HOW DID IT GET IN HERE?!

AND THAT BOTH THE ANCIENT SHIP AND THE THREE-NINE HAVE JOINED BRUNHILDE AT GREAT HARLOCK'S BASE?!

WHAT'S THAT? YOU SAY THAT RING OF TIME HAS TWISTED AGAIN?!

OH, BUT IF MY DAUGHTER WERE STILL ON MY SIDE! THIS WOULD BE A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY!!

YES, MY LORD WOTAN. THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT OF IT.

TO KILL THEM ALL, YOU DOLT!

FOR WHAT, MY LORD?

DON'T SPEAK TO ME OF THAT THING!! EVER!!!

BUT DID NOT GREAT HARLOCK'S BASE DEFEND ITSELF WELL AGAINST OUR FORCES? AND IS NOT THE ANCIENT SHIP--

NO, MY LORD. NOT A SINGLE SHIP SURVIVED ... NOT EVEN FREYA'S.

ANY NEWS FROM OUR ATTACK SQUADRON? DID ANY OF THEM ESCAPE? COME ON, GIRL -- ANSWER ME!!!

THERE ARE SOME WHOSE DESTINIES ARE SO INTERTWINED THAT THEY WILL MEET AND SHARE THEIR LIVES IN ALMOST ANY RING OF TIME YOU CARE TO CONSIDER. SO IT IS WITH THE FOURSOME OF HARLOCK, TOCHIRO, EMERALDAS, AND MAETEL. SUCH IS DESTINY. THE NORNS HAVE MOVED, AND THE HAND OF FATE HAS TWISTED THIS RING OF TIME -- BRINGING ABOUT A REUNION FORETOLD NOT THAT LONG AGO BY THE QUEEN EMERALDAS, THE ANCIENT SHIP OF THE MOSGALUT. SUCH A THING CANNOT BE EXPLAINED, ONLY ACCEPTED ... FOR SUCH IS FATE, AND SUCH IS THE IRON HAND WITH WHICH IT RULES THE UNIVERSE.

Siegfried

Ring 42 ; Destiny

YES, MY LORD WOTAN.

WAIT ... YOU SAY THE ANCIENT SHIP IS THERE? DID IT FALL THROUGH A TIME KNOT, PERCHANCE?

EVEN NOW, IT IS PREPARING TO ENTER THE ASTEROID.

OH, BUT IF ONLY FREYA'S SQUADRON HAD NOT BEEN DESTROYED!!!

ENTER?! BUT HOW?!! IT WILL BE SHOT UP, TOO!!!

RECORD THAT SIGNAL! IT MAY BE THE KEY TO CRACKING THIS NUT WIDE OPEN!!!

MY LORD WOTAN! THE SHIP IS SENDING A HEAVILY ENCRYPTED SIGNAL TO THE ASTEROID! IT IS RESPONDING!

YES, LORD WOTAN ... MY LORD? THE SHIP ... IT IS *TALKING* TO THE PEOPLE INSIDE! NOT THE SHIP'S SYSTEMS -- THE SHIP ITSELF!!! HOW CAN THIS BE, MY LORD?!

AH, BUT YOU DO NOT KNOW OF THE MOSGALUT, DO YOU YOUNG ONE? NEVER MIND.

IT'S BEING ALLOWED INSIDE, MY LORD.

THE OLD SHIP! IT SAID WE'D MEET AGAIN, BUT I NEVER THOUGHT IT WOULD BE LIKE THIS!!

FIRST THE THREE-NINE AND NOW THE QUEEN EMERALDAS! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?!

... AND ALSO EXPLAINS HOW THAT OLD SHIP KNEW OUR PASSCODES! ITS FROM THE FUTURE!!!

SEE? I WAS RIGHT! A TIME KNOT! THAT'S HOW THE THREE-NINE GOT IN HERE ...

THIS ONE HAS, ANYWAY -- AND I'LL BET THAT PARTICULAR THREE-NINE HAS TOO, HARLOCK!

ARE YOU SAYING IT'S BEEN HERE BEFORE?

... AND I WILL BE HERE AGAIN. I KNOW THIS RESTFUL PLACE WELL, DR. OYAMA. YOU SHOULD BE PROUD OF IT.

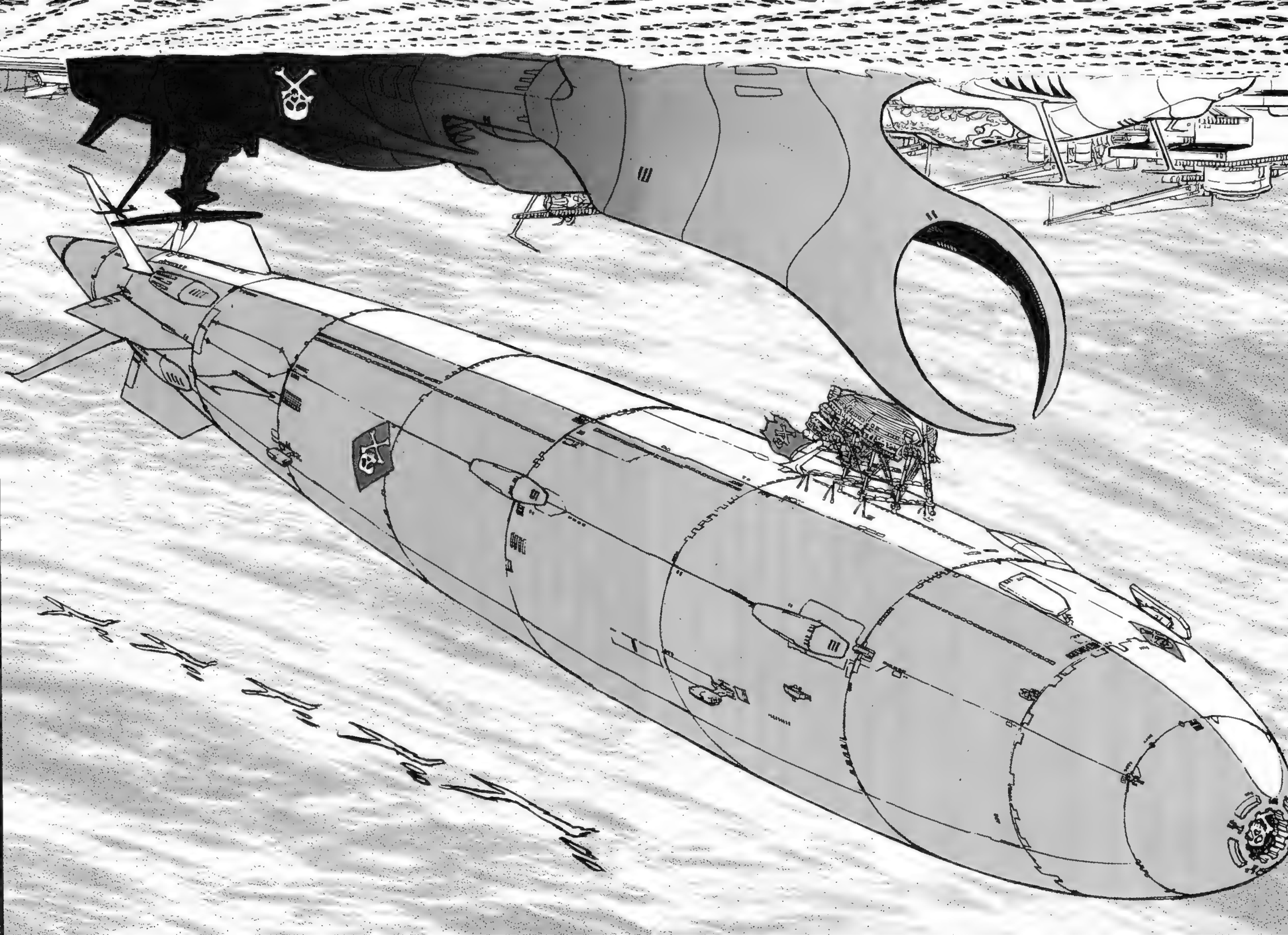
YES ... I HAVE BEEN HERE BEFORE, FATHER OF TOCHIRO ...

YOU ARE WELCOME. I HAVE COME HERE, EVEN AS I FORETOLD, BECAUSE I NEED YOUR SON TOCHIRO TO FINISH THE JOB HE STARTED IN REPAIRING MY MAIN ENGINE.

WELL ... I ... UH ... I ... THAT IS TO SAY ... UH ... THANK YOU.

FAR ENOUGH TO HAVE SEEN YOU SON GROW INTO THE MAN HE WILL BE, GREAT HARLOCK ... AND BOTH I AND MY CAPTAIN WILLINGLY FIGHT BY HIS SIDE!

UHH ... EXCUSE ME, BUT MAY I ASK FROM JUST HOW FAR IN OUR FUTURE -- OR YOUR PAST -- YOU COME FROM?



WHAT A BEAUTIFUL SHIP. IT'S EVEN MORE IMPRESSIVE NOW THAN WHEN WE SAW IT BEFORE.

YEAH. YOU CAN TELL SOMEBODY'S BEEN WORKING ON IT AND CLEANING IT UP. SEE HOW IT SPARKLES?

... BUT I'M WILLING TO LAY ODDS IT'S A LOT OLDER THAN THAT! I MEAN, LOOK AT THAT CRAFTSMANSHIP! AND THAT LADY ON THE BOW BELOW! DOESN'T IT PERFECTLY CAPTURE THE HEART OF A SHIP LIKE THIS?

THAT BOY SAID IT WAS IN SURPRISINGLY GOOD SHAPE FOR A STARSHIP THAT WAS 300 YEARS OLD ...

I THANK YOU, AS DO THE FUTURE FORMS OF YOUR TWO SONS. IT IS BUT MY PART TO PLAY AT THIS POINT IN THIS TWISTED RING OF TIME.

QUEEN EMERALDAS! WE ARE HONORED BY YOUR VISIT! YOU ARE WELCOME TO STAY HERE AS LONG AS YOU NEED. I WILL ALSO SEND FOR YOUNG TOCHIRO, SO HE CAN FINISH THE JOB HE STARTED.

BET YOU'RE GLAD TO HAVE YOUR GIRLFRIEND BACK!

DID YOU HEAR THAT? IT'S FROM OUR FUTURE!

WHA--? BRUNHILDE ... WHAT HAPPENED?

YOUR FATHERS DID NOT TELL YOU? MY FATHER ATTACKED THIS PLACE ONCE HE LEARNED WE HAD ESCAPED. FREYA LED THAT ATTACK -- BUT SHE IS NO WARRIOR. I MYSELF RESCUED HER FROM THE WRECK OF HER SHIP.

THAT-- THAT'S FREYA. WHAT HAPPENED TO HER?

STUPID FOOL! SENDING THE PLAYER OF THE COSMIC ORGAN INTO BATTLE! I MUST BRING HER BACK TO LIFE. PLEASE -- STAND ASIDE.

... AND I CAN USE THEM, TOGETHER WITH MY POWERS, TO DRAW THE SPARK OF LIFE BACK FROM THE BRINK WITHIN POOR FREYA ....

THE WATERS OF THE SEA INSIDE THIS ASTEROID ARE AMONG THE PUREST IN THE UNIVERSE ...

PERHAPS ... PERHAPS NOW THAT MIIME IS ON RHINE, PLAYING THE COSMIC ORGAN THERE ... PERHAPS NOW THAT MIIME WAS BACK AT HER OLD TASK, IN A SENSE, HE FELT HE COULD RISK POOR FREYA.

SHE CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO DIE. WHAT WAS MY FATHER THINKING?! SHE IS ONE OF ONLY TWO WHO HAVE MASTERED THE COSMIC ORGAN!

SHE IS STILL THERE ...

BRUNHILDE ... WHY DIDN'T MIIME COME WITH YOU? IS SHE STILL ON THE PLANET RHINE?

SHE FREED US, BUT SHE CANNOT LEAVE THERE NOW BECAUSE OF THAT. REST ASSURED, I WISH THIS HAD NOT BEEN NECESSARY.

... AND, SAD TO SAY, SHE MUST STAY THERE. SOMEONE MUST PLAY THE COSMIC ORGAN FOR THE SAKE OF VALHALLA, AND SINCE FREYA IS INJURED, WELL ... I'M SORRY, YOUNG HARLOCK.

SHE IS A PERSON WHO HAS ALWAYS STOOD UP FOR HER CONVICTIONS, NO MATTER WHAT -- THE SAME AS YOUR FATHER, AND THAT OF YOUNG OYAMA OVER THERE.

DESPITE OUR DIFFERENCES, I HAVE GREAT RESPECT FOR YOUR TUTOR.

WILL WE EVER SEE HER AGAIN?

ONLY MOTHER AND HER SISTERS MIGHT KNOW ... BUT I AM NOT SHE. I DO KNOW THIS: IF SHE COULD COME BACK TO YOU AGAIN, SHE WOULD.

PERHAPS. WHO CAN SAY, NOW THAT ALL ROADS ARE BENT IN THIS TWISTED RING OF TIME?

MIIME ....

... EVEN IN THIS BENT RING OF TIME. MOTHER SAYS THE RINGS HAVE A WAY OF ... "FLEXING" WHENVER SOMEONE TRIES TO BEND THEM. EVENTS THAT MUST TAKE PLACE RE-SORT THEMSELVES.

FEAR NOT, HARLOCK. IF IT IS PART OF YOUR DESTINY, AS MOTHER FORETOLD, THAT YOU MEET HER AGAIN, THEN REST ASSURED YOU WILL ...

IF YOU ARE TO MEET MIIME AGAIN, YOU WILL. MAYBE NOT AS SOON AS YOU MIGHT LIKE, BUT YOU WILL.

NOT EVEN MY FATHER WOTAN CAN TWIST THE RINGS OF TIME TO HIS WILL.

DUDE! CHILL OUT! LOOK AROUND YOU! HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN WHO'S-- OH, NEVER MIND.

ALL I CARE ABOUT RIGHT NOW IS THAT EMERALDAS IS BACK! AND THE OLD SHIP, TOO! MAN, OH MAN, HOW CAN A GUY BE SO LUCKY?!

THE THREADS OF FATE OF BOTH EMERALDAS AND MAETEL ARE WOUND TIGHTLY WITH YOUR OWN. THERE WILL COME A TIME SOON ENOUGH, AS YOU MORTALS MEASURE IT, WHEN BOTH YOUR ARCADIA AND THE QUEEN EMERALDAS WILL SIT HERE IN THIS PLACE SIDE BY SIDE.

IT IS ALL RIGHT, YOUNG HARLOCK. LET HIM REVEL IN HIS JOY AT THIS REUNION. WE ARE NOT OFFENDED.

OH, EMERALDAS! IT SEEMS LIKE FOREVER SINCE YOU LEFT! WHAT AM I GOING TO SAY? HOW AM I GOING TO ACT? SHE'S A SPECIAL KIND OF GIRL, AND I'VE GOT TO PUT ON THE BEST IMPRES--

WHA--?! OH!!! I-- I-- UH ...

YOUNG MAN ... PERHAPS YOU MIGHT WANT TO GO DRY OFF AND PUT ON SOME CLOTHES FIRST BEFORE YOU DO ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

UHH ... YEAH.

DO NOT BE AFRAID. I UNDERSTAND YOU, IF IN MY OWN WAY. EVERYONE, EVEN IMMORTALS, ACT STRANGELY WHEN OUR HEARTS ARE MOVED.

IT IS THE WAY MEN AND WOMEN OF ALL KINDS HAVE ACTED SINCE TIME BEGAN.

WE PURSUE OUR DREAMS WHEREVER THEY LEAD US ... AND SOMETIMES, YOUNG ONE, THEY LEAD US BY THE NOSE.

... AND MAETEL IS ALSO THERE, YOUNG HARLOCK. SHE WOULD WELCOME YOUR COMPANY.

GO, YOUNG TOCHIRO, EMERALDAS AWAITS YOU ...

AHHHH ... EMERALDAS!

GOD, I HOPE NOT! AT LEAST -- HEY, WAIT UP!!!

I'M COMING!

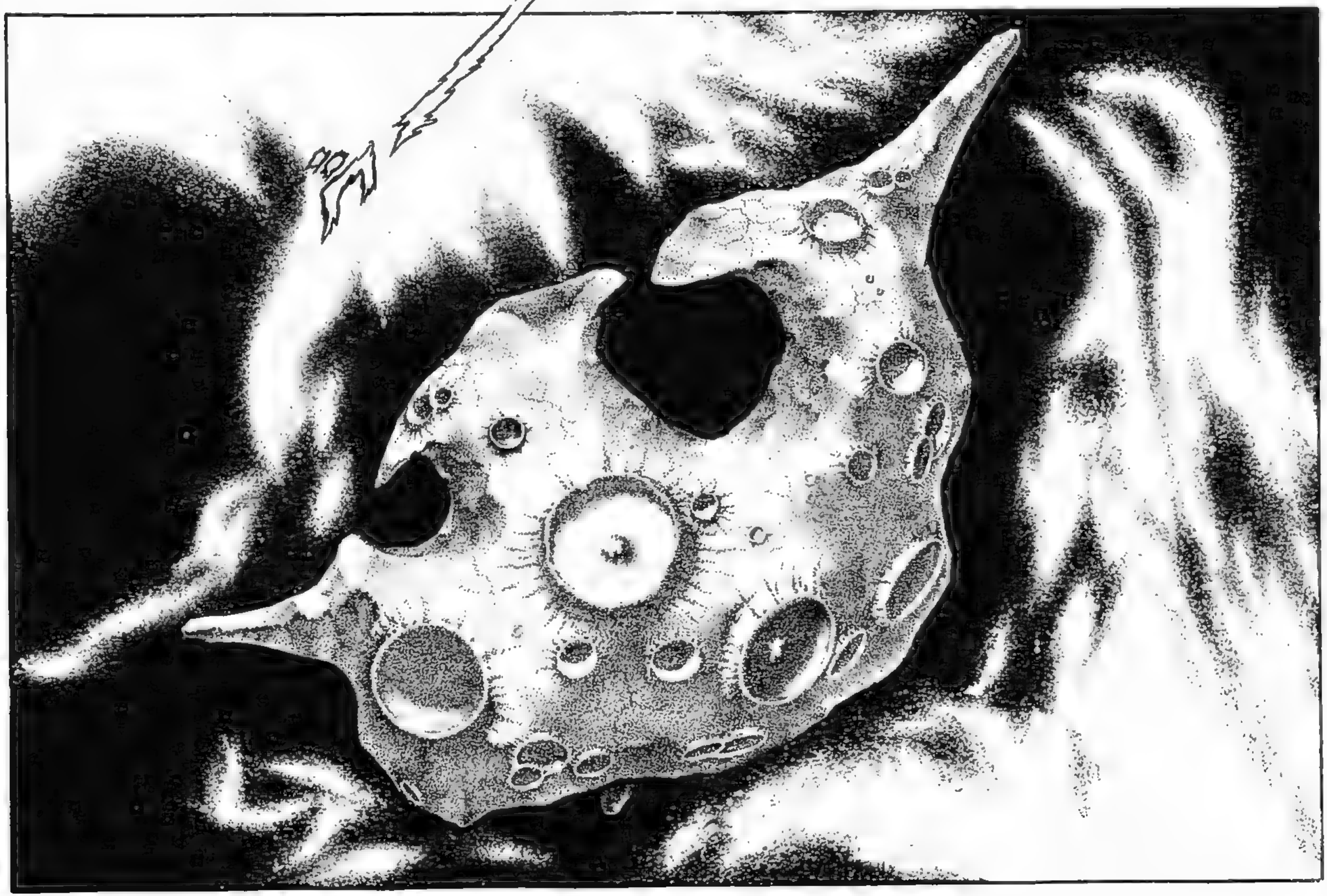
WHAT IS THIS MUSIC? THAT IS NOT FREYA'S PLAYING! I HAVE NEVER HEARD THIS PIECE BEFORE!!

IT IS NOT ANY OF THE SONGS OF VALHALLA!! THIS IS NOT FREYA!!!

FREYA ... WHY DID I SEND YOU OUT LIKE THAT? I WAS A FOOL!!!

IT IS HER SONG YOU HEAR ... AND WE STILL HAVE FOUND NO TRACE OF FREYA.

MY LORD WOTAN ... THIS MUSIC COMES FROM THE PLANET RHINE, WHERE MIIME NOW PLAYS ITS COSMIC ORGAN.



IF I MUST, I WILL DESTROY THEM BOTH WITH MY OWN BARE HANDS!

GREAT HARLOCK'S ASTEROID ... THE PLANET RHINE ...

I WILL YET FIND A WAY ... AND THEN I WILL DESTROY YOU, GREAT HARLOCK, DR. OYAMA, AND YOUR SONS!!!

I WILL NOT LET MY VALHALLA FALL!!!

SO PRIMITIVE A VESSEL HAS NO PLACE IN MY UNIVERSE!!! I WILL DESTROY ALL OF YOU AND IT TOO!!!

I WILL ALSO CRUSH THAT TOY SHIP OF YOURS AS WELL!!!

IT SEEMS WE WERE DESTINED TO COME BACK TO YOUR YOUTHS, SAYS THE QUEEN EMERALDAS. SHE NEEDS YOU TO FINISH WHAT YOU STARTED, TOCHIRO.

THEY'VE BEEN WAITING A LONG TIME TO SEE YOU AGAIN. HOW LONG? YOU DON'T WANNA KNOW.

YOU'RE LATE. SAY HELLO TO OUR TWO GUESTS.

WHAT? FINISH WORKING ON THE QUEEN EMERALDAS?! *NOW?!?!*

WHEN DESTINY MOVES, THEN THE HEAVENS TREMBLE. WHEN FATE DEALS ITS HAND, THEN ALL CREATION MUST PLAY ITS GAME. THE FOUR HEROES OF THE FUTURE HAVE BEEN REUNITED IN A MEETING THAT DESTINY HAS FOREORDAINED. IT MATTERS NOT THAT THE ANCIENT GODS OPPOSE THEM. IT MATTERS NOT THAT THEIR FUTURE FOES LIE IN WAIT FOR THEM. THIS MEETING CAN AND WILL TAKE PLACE BECAUSE ... IT IS DESTINY.

Siegfried

Ring 43 : Our Mother Promethium

LESSON NUMBER ONE, TOCHIRO: *NEVER* TALK ABOUT A WOMAN'S AGE. GOT IT?

E-EMERALDAS! YOU ... YOU ... YOU'RE OLDER!

YES, INDEED! FOR ALTHOUGH EMERALDAS AND MAETEL LOOKED BUT A COUPLE OF YEARS OLDER, MANY DECADES AND MANY ADVENTURES HAD PASSED FOR THEM. YET THIS MEETING WAS DESTINED, SO FATE TWISTED TIME IN ORDER THAT IT SHOULD COME ABOUT AS IT WAS SUPPOSED TO. FOR THAT SAME REASON THE QUEEN EMERALDAS HAS ALSO RETURNED TO THE LIVES OF YOUNG HARLOCK AND TOCHIRO ....

YOU CAME BACK, AS YOU PROMISED, BUT THERE WERE ENEMIES AT YOUR BACK, AND YOU COULD NOT STAY FOR LONG ...

I AM THE QUEEN EMERALDAS ... BUT NOT THE ONE THAT YOU KNEW, FOR YOU AND I HAVE ALREADY MET AGAIN.

... BUT THEN A MEMORY CAME TO YOU, AND FOR THAT YOU SENT ME BACK HERE ...

... TO FINISH THE WORK YOU HAD STARTED LONG AGO.

WHAT IS THIS, SOME KIND OF TEMPORAL CAUSALITY LOOP?

WHOA, WAIT! THIS IS TOO MUCH!!!

HE'S SO CUTE WHENEVER HE'S FLUSTERED, MAETEL. JUST AS I REMEMBER HIM ....

TOCHIRO, DON'T FORGET THIS SHIP CAN SEE ACROSS THE RINGS OF TIME. IF ITS SAYS YOU'RE TO FIX IT NOW, THEN THAT'S THE WAY IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE.

YES, I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN. LIKE THE CONFUSION YOU FEEL WHEN SEEING AN OLD FLAME YOU HAVEN'T SEEN IN YEARS.

YET THERE'S THAT OLD SHIP, AND YOU CAN'T DENY THAT. YOU KNOW ... SOMEHOW IT LOOKS RIGHT SITTING THERE. I MEAN ....

I FEEL FOR TOCHIRO. I'M HAVIN' A HARD TIME WRAPPING MY OWN HEAD AROUND THIS MYSELF.

WELCOME BACK, YOUNG TOCHRIO. I AM GLAD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, AND I EAGERLY AWAIT YOUR WORK ON ME.

UHH ... OKAY. YEAH -- SURE. WELL, NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE, WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?

ONLY YOUR HANDS CAN MATCH THOSE OF MY MASTERS OF OLD ... AND ONCE YOUR WORK IS DONE, THEN THERE WILL BE NO LIMIT TO WHAT I CAN DO.

IN GOOD TIME, MY YOUNG FRIEND. FOR NOW, THOUGH, LET US REJOICE AT OUR MEETING AGAIN ... FOR I HAVE MISSED YOU.

THAT WOULD BE TELLING, YOUNG ONE.

AH ... UM ... CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT MY FUTURE SELF? WHAT I'LL BE LIKE? WHAT I'LL DO?

YOU MEAN THIS SKULL HERE?

PRESS YOUR EAR CLOSE TO THE EMBLEM ON MY THRONE, AND I WILL WHISPER THEM TO YOU.

BUT I CAN TELL YOU OTHER THINGS ... YES ... I CAN CONFIRM THE HOPES OF YOUR HEART, IF YOU WISH.

COOL!

OH, YES! YES!!!

SHE LOVES YOU.

IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK!

WHA--?? OH, GAWD ...

A-HEM ...

YOU WERE DIZZY, WEREN'T YOU, TOCHIRO?

HE--HE'S DIZZY, THAT'S ALL! HE FELT FAINT! HE HAD TO GRAB ON TO SOMETHING!

LET ME GUESS. THE ANCIENT SHIP.

MY LORD, THERE IS A POWERFUL FORCE RADIATING MENTAL ENERGY IN GREAT HARLOCK'S BASE.

IT IS STRONG, AND OF INCREDIBLE, ALMOST UNIMAGINABLE POWER ...

WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT TO MAKE OF IT, LORD WOTAN!

BRUNHILDE?

MY LORD! IT ... IT IS BRUNHILDE!

YES, MY LORD.

SO THAT'S WHERE ALL OF THEM WENT! I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN.

I DISCERN ... A HEALING FORCE AT WORK. PERHAPS ONE OF THEM WAS INJURED IN THEIR ESCAPE.

HMMM ...

LET'S SEE ... AH, THE DRAGON GALAXY ... AND THE PEOPLE OF TYRANOVULCAN. THEY'LL DO NICELY.

DISPLAY FOR ME AN IMAGE OF VALHALLA AND ALL OF MY DOMAIN!

AT ONCE, MY LORD.

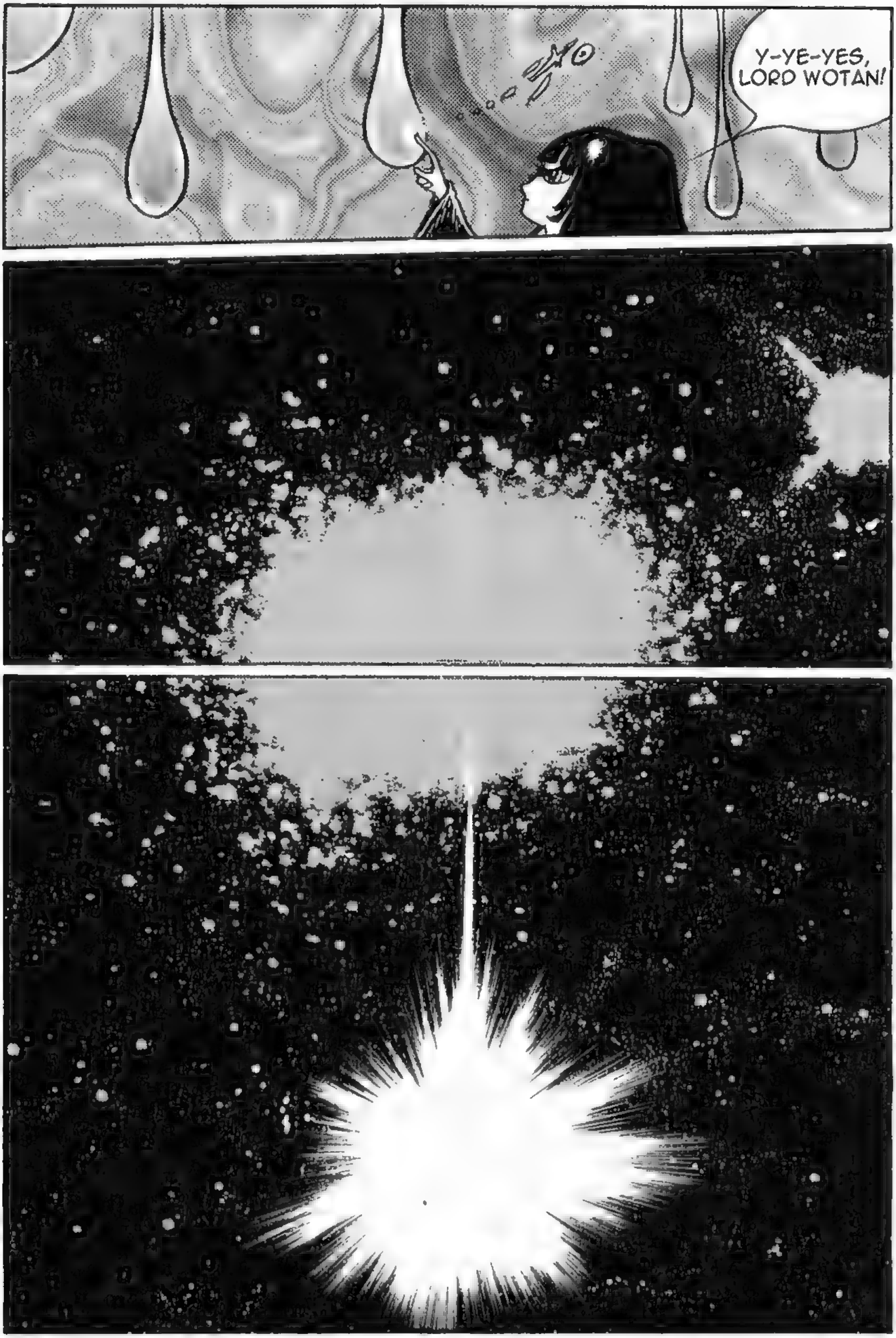
YES. CALL THEM. TELL THEM THAT LORD WOTAN REQUIRES THEIR ASSISTANCE.

THEM?

I GAVE YOU AN ORDER, GIRL. CARRY IT OUT.

BUT MY LORD! THE INHABITANTS OF THE DRAGON GALAXY ARE UNPREDICTABLE! THEY MAY TURN AGAINST YOU!

NOW!!!


Y-YE-YES, LORD WOTAN!

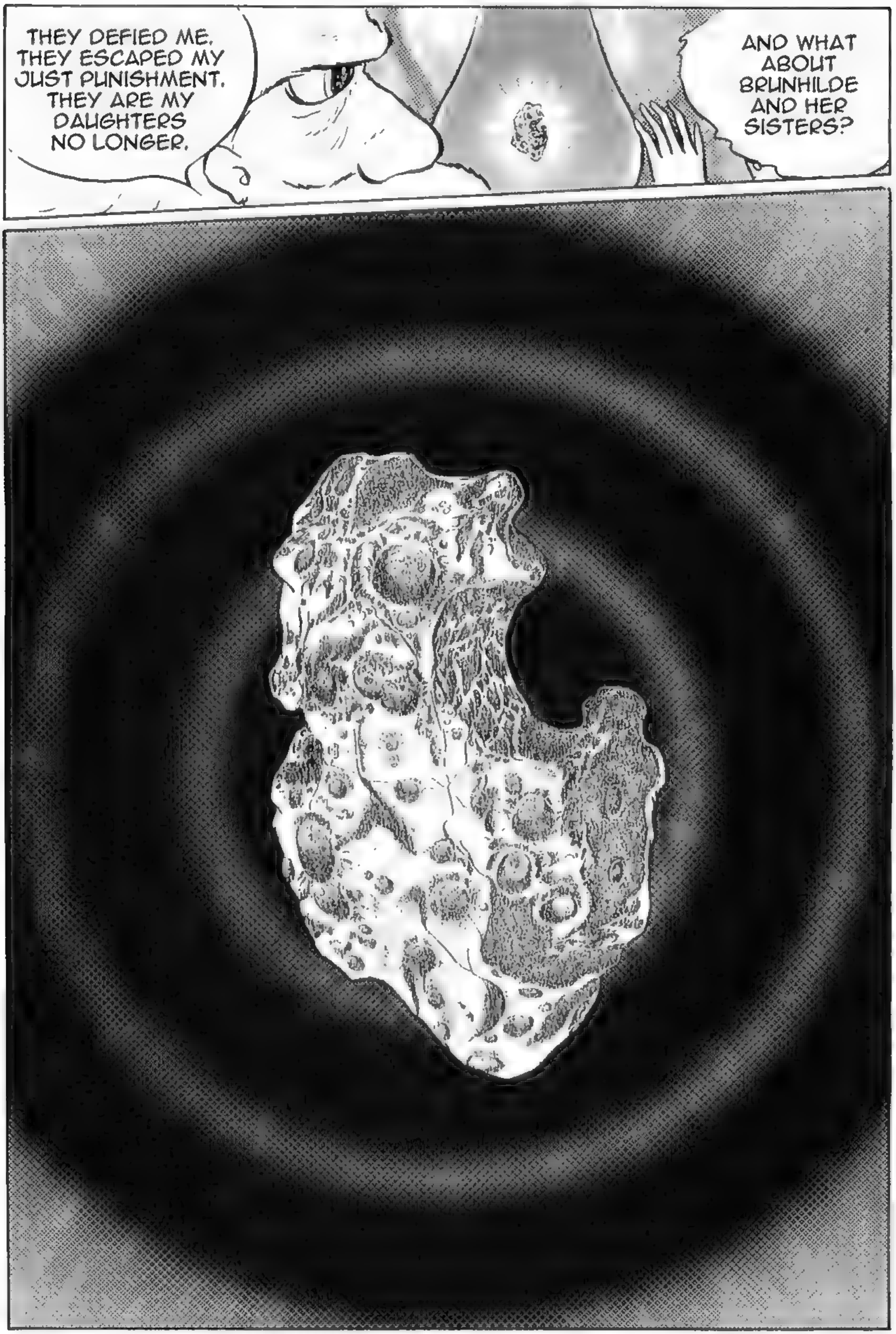
IT IS AREADY IN HYPERSPACE, AND WILL SOON ARRIVE AT GREAT HARLOCK'S ASTEROID BASE.

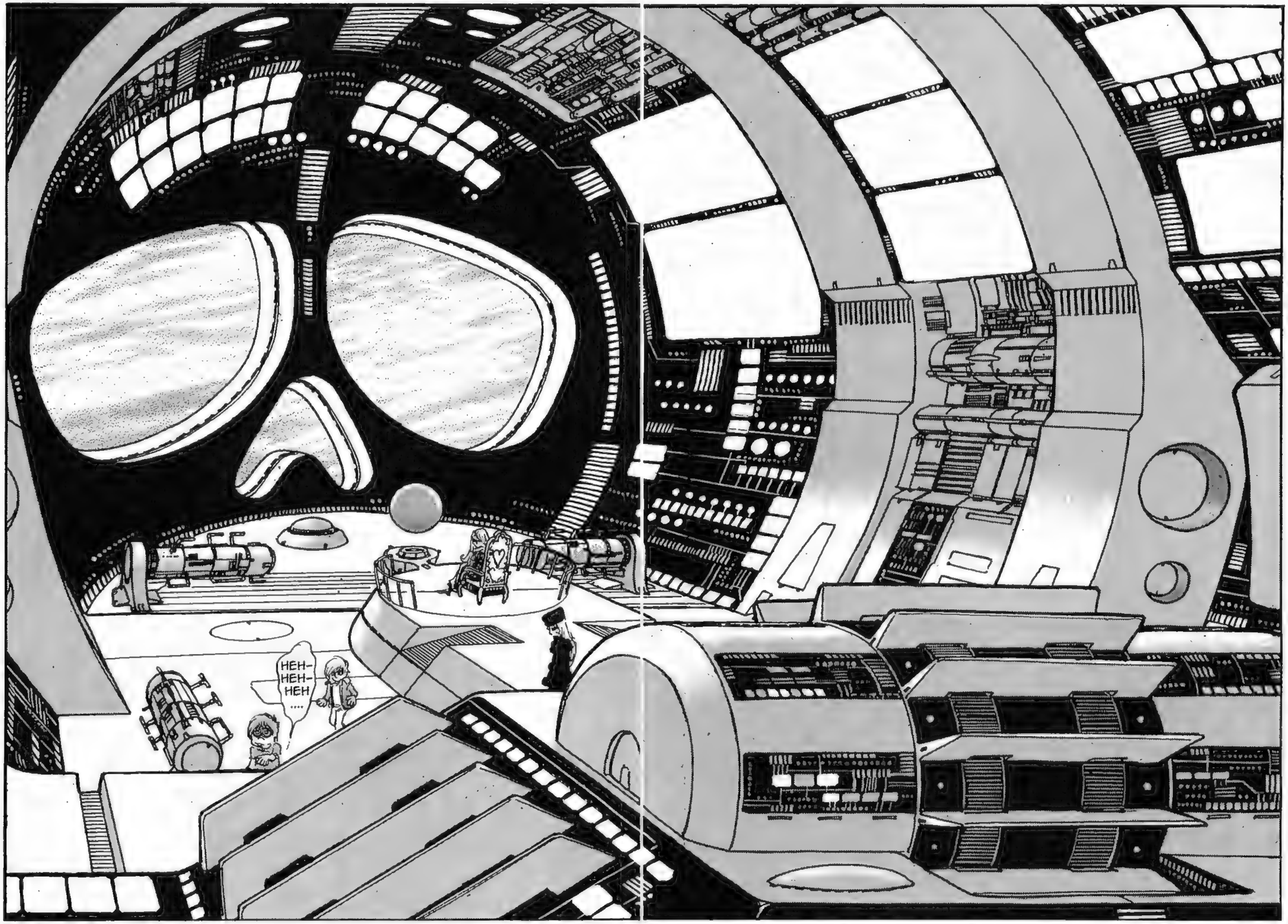
RESPONSE RECEIVED. THEY UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU WANT AND A SHIP IS ON THE WAY.

ONCE THERE, THEY WILL DESTROY EVERYTHING.

EITHER THEIR CONFIDENCE IS EXTREME OR THEY ARE EXTEREME IDIOTS!

MY LORD? I AM AWARE OF HOW FIERCE A WARRIOR RACE THEY ARE, BUT ONE SHIP?


THEY DEFIED ME. THEY ESCAPED MY JUST PUNISHMENT. THEY ARE MY DAUGHTERS NO LONGER.
AND WHAT ABOUT BRUNHILDE AND HER SISTERS?


HEH-
HEH-
HEH
....

UMM ... YOU COULD SAY THAT, IN A MANNER OF SPEAKING.

IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH YOUR FRIEND?

!♡

MIND IF I JOIN YOU, TOCHIRO?

PLEASE FORGIVE MY SISTER. SHE CAN BE ... "COLD" ... AT TIMES.

I WISH I WERE THAT LUCKY ... I MEAN, TO TO FIND ... WELL ...

TO BE HONEST, THOUGH, I THINK SHE LIKES YOUR FRIEND AS MUCH AS HE LIKES HER.

NOR I.

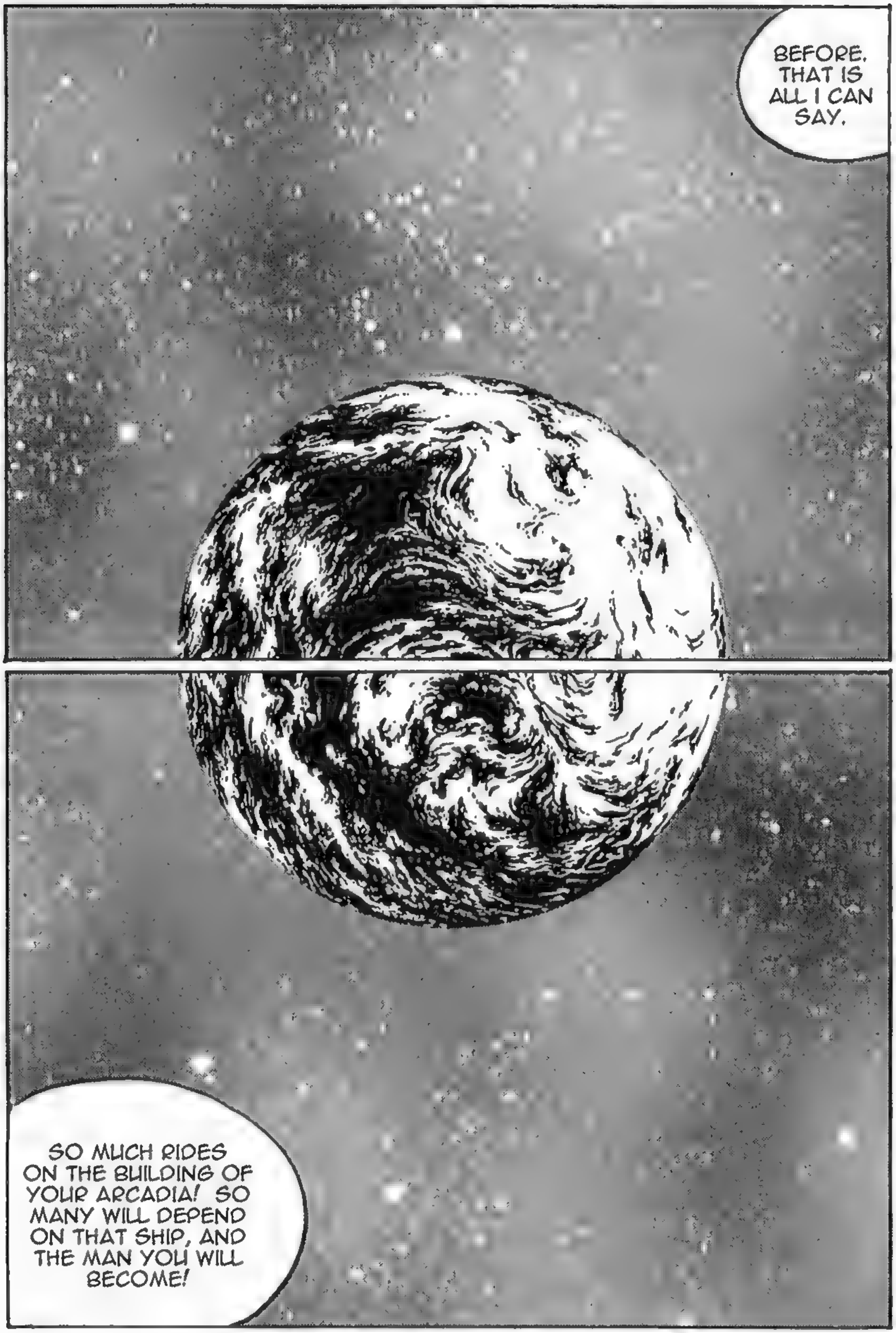
IF ONLY OUR FATES WERE DIFFERENT. I WOULDN'T MIND BEING WITH YOU.

I KNOW MORE THAN WHEN WE LAST MET, HARLOCK. I HAVE BEEN THROUGH THE RINGS OF TIME ... AND I HAVE MET YOUR FUTURE BELOVED, MAYA.

WHEN WILL I MEET HER? BEFORE OR AFTER THE ARCADIA IS BUILT?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "ALREADY ON EARTH?"

BUT THERE IS SOMEONE DESTINED FOR YOU ALREADY. SHE IS ON EARTH EVEN NOW.


BEFORE. THAT IS ALL I CAN SAY.
SO MUCH RIDES ON THE BUILDING OF YOUR ARCADIA! SO MANY WILL DEPEND ON THAT SHIP, AND THE MAN YOU WILL BECOME!

BUT SURELY SOMEONE LIKE YOU WON'T ALWAYS BE ALONE!

I HAVE A DESTINY TOO, HARLOCK ... AND TO FULFILL IT ... I ... MUST BE ALONE.

HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE WANDERING PLANET LA MAETEL? I AM NAMED FOR IT. MY MOTHER, LA ANDROMEDA PROMETHIUM, IS THE QUEEN THERE. SHE WAS ONCE A KIND, LOVING WOMAN ... BUT NOW ...

AND AS FOR MY FATHER ...

... MY DESTINY IS TO FIGHT THE EVIL THING SHE HAS BECOME.

THIS IS GOING TO BE FUN ... !

THE TYRANO-VULCAN VESSEL HAS JUST LEFT WARP, MY LORD WOTAN.

ALERT!! ALERT!! UNKNOWN VESSEL APPROACHING! CONFIGURATION DOES NOT MATCH ANY KNOWN SHIP TYPE!!!

VESSEL IS ASSUMING A BELLIGERENT POSTURE!! AUTOMATIC DEFENSES ENGAGED!!!

WELL, TOSHIRO ... YOU SAID EARLIER YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO TAKE ON A GOD ....

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE GOING TO GET YOUR CHANCE.

LIKE A MALEVOLENT DRAGON OUT OF SOME LEGEND OF OLD, A TYRANOVULCAN SPACE BATTLESHIP HAS COME SEEKING THE DESTRUCTION OF GREAT HARLOCK'S BASE AND EVERYONE INSIDE. IT DOES SO ON THE ORDERS OF WOTAN, LORD OF VALHALLA, AS PART OF HIS LATEST EFFORT TO END THE HARLOCK FAMILY LINE, AND THUS ENSURE THE FUTURE OF VALHALLA. ONCE AGAIN, WOTAN TURNS HIS BLIND EYE TO DESTINY AND AFFIXES HIS GOOD EYE ON A GOAL THAT HE CANNOT AND WILL NOT ACCOMPLISH -- FOR IN THIS MATTER, THE HAND OF FATE RULES SUPREME.

■ To be continued in Siegfried Volume 2

Attention !
Ce manga est publié dans son sens de lecture original (de droite à gauche).

Ici, vous êtes donc à la FIN

www.mangakana.com

9 782871 298106

Richard Wagner (1813-1883)

Originaire de Leipzig, en Allemagne, il se détache de l'opéra classique et invente les "drames musicaux". Il consacre un quart de siècle à la composition de sa tétralogie "L'anneau des Nibelungen" dans laquelle il réunit différents contes germaniques, et il fit construire le Théâtre de Bayreuth pour la représentation de ses œuvres. Encore aujourd'hui a lieu tous les ans le Festival de Bayreuth.

Leiji Matsumoto (1938)

Akira Matsumoto, de son vrai nom, naît à Kurume, dans le département de Fukuoka. Il dessine des manga dès l'école primaire et c'est en 1954, à l'âge de quinze ans, qu'il remporte le prix de la revue Manga shônen avec "Mitsubachi no bôken" (Les aventures d'une abeille) et effectue ses premiers pas dans le milieu professionnel. Il publie par la suite des histoires dans Shôjo ou le Mainichi shôgakusei shinbun seibuban (édition occidentale du Journal Mainichi des écoliers). À sa sortie du lycée, il se rend au mont-de-piété pour y vendre des disques et un électrophone trouvés dans la rue qui financeront son voyage pour s'installer à Tokyo. Après "Sexaroid" et "Yojigen sekai" (Le monde quadridimensionnel), il obtient le succès en 1972 avec "Otoko oidon" (Je suis un homme !) et remporte le prix culturel des éditions Kôdansha. Suivent des titres comme "Uchû senkan Yamato" (Yamato, le cuirassé de l'espace), "Uchû kaizoku captain Harlock" (Capitaine Albator, le pirate de l'espace), "Ginga tetsudô 999" (Galaxy Express 999) qui sont tous de formidables hits adaptés en dessins animés pour la télévision et le cinéma, et en particulier, le film de "Galaxy Express 999", numéro un des entrées en salle pour l'année 1979. À côté de ses activités de mangaka, Leiji Matsumoto est président du conseil d'administration du Young Astronauts Club-Japan et directeur du Conseil Central de Liaison des Associations pour la Jeunesse. À l'automne 2001, il est décoré de la Médaille d'Honneur avec Ruban Violet.